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INDEX.

Articles.

Abbey on the Dart, The, 291
Abbey Langthorne Memorial, 449
Admirable Architecture of Roman France, The, 182
America's National Architecture, 132
Anglo-Saxon Tradition and Wren Churches, 336
Architect and his City, The, 367
A.A. Pantomine, 293
Architectural Forum, 61
Architectural Reformation, An, 97
Architectural Sketch Club, Southport School of Art, 402
Architectonic Sculptor, An, 371
Architecture Club, The, 309, 354
Architecture at the Royal Scottish Academy, 65
Art Galleries, 255, 333, 355, 363, 382, 409, 444
Art Notes, 298
Artistic Craftsmanship Exhibition at the Brook Street Galleries, 333.
Ashley Chase, Dorsetshire, 6
Austrian Architect's Peculiar Project, 138

Bayham and Beaulieu, The Skeletons of, 29
Beauty in Architecture, 134
Benedictine Priory of Blyth, Notts, 417
Birmingham and Midland Building Exhibition, 32, 170, 189, 204, 232
Bolton's Scheme for Relief of Unemployment, 454
Bolton School, 216
Books, 342
British Industries Fair, 299, 414
British Institution Scholarship R.A. for Sculpture, 439
British International Association of Journalists, 83
Bristol University New Buildings, 127
Building Construction Plates, 262
Building Progress, 88, 122, 152, 188, 226, 284, 302, 320, 342, 378, 412, 432, 450
Building Trade and Housing Exhibition, Edinburgh, 428
Burford, An Old Cotswold Town, 236
Business Premises, Corner of Wellington Street, Strand, 161
Business Premises, Red Lion Square, W.C., 102
Buying up Parks, 436
Bye-Laws and Principles, 295

Calendars, 450, 462
Canadian Building, Cockspur Street, S.W.1, The, 117
Careless Statements, 470
Catalogues, New, 232
Central Research Laboratories of Radiation, Ltd., 278
Change of Address, 428
Chantry Hall, The Deanery, Southampton, 380
Choice of an Architect, The, 375

Articles—continued.

City of the Conqueror, The, 206
City Diary, The, 462
Claims of Local Architects, The, 228
Colour in Architecture, 239
Company Fusion, 320
Competition News, 12, 50, 82, 102, 229, 251, 282, 293, 310, 336, 351, 406, 420, 429, 439, 458
Competition Results, 293, 336, 458
Competition for Russian Workers' Houses, 135
Competition at Valletta, Malta, 93
Competitive Design for Railway Offices, Nairobi, 250
Concrete Parthenon, 388
Constructional Sculpture of Jacques Lipchitz, 202
Correction, 232, 320
Cottage at Hornchurch, 270
Corrosion of Tumbler Switches, 154

Defence of Architectural Eclecticism, 185
Design for a Social Hall, 465
Doctor's House at Swanage, 151
Drill Hall, Newburn-on-Tyne, 81

Eclecticism in Architecture, 144, 186
Eighteenth Century Architecture in Vevy, 429
Election of B.C.G.A. President, 1925-6, 320.
Electric Clocks, 342, 436
Electrical Installation, A paper on, 242
Exhibition of Art, by Officers and Ex-Officers of the Regular Army, 255
Extension of Architectural Metaphor, The, 241

Fifteenth Century in Oxfordshire, The, 98
Follies of 1950, The, 289
Ford Almshouses, Rochester, 6
Foreign Cement for Public Works, 391
French Architects' Status, 116
French Building Crisis, 131
From Menhir to Calvary, 352

General News, 18, 31, 52, 72, 84, 104, 120, 140, 156, 172, 194, 210, 230, 248, 264, 279, 300, 317, 340, 358, 376, 396, 412, 434, 452
G.P.O. Arts Club, 296
Good Work, 405
"Greenbanks," Lyndale, Hampstead, 462

Hackney's New Electricity Demonstration Halls and Offices, 280
Harefield Church and its Monuments, 386, 403
Holbrook Competition, 12
House at Finchfield Road, Wolverhampton, 188
House, Longdown Road, Epsom, 270
House, Springhead Estate, near Haslemere, 323
House, Walmer, Kent, 464
House, Warham Road, Croydon, 270

Articles—continued.

Houses at Mill Hill, 234
Housing and Character Building, 252
Housing and Town Planning Tour, 70
Housing in the City of Edinburgh, 388
How to Save Money, 354

International Federation of Building and Public Works, 246
Iron Houses, 214
Ironmongers' Company. An Impression of the New Hall, 58
Ironmonger's Pocket Book, The, 447

Japanese Architecture, 259
Jonsson Einan, the Iclander, 371

Lantern Slides for Engineering Lectures, 320
Last Word on Epstein, A, 426
Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society, 424
Lest We Forget, 373
Lighting of Liverpool Cathedral, The, 360
London-Lancashire House, Leadenhall Street, E.C., 322

"Machine-Made" Dwellings, 166
Manchester Art Gallery Competition, 65
Manchester Building News, 156
Manchester Town Hall Competition, 429
Midland Building Exhibition, 32, 170, 189
Modern Architectural Eclecticism, A, 109
Modern Architecture in Denmark, 271
Modern Interior Domestic Architecture, 306
Mono-Block Construction, 338
Moor Park Building Competition, 362
Motion Pictures Theatres, 61

Netley Abbey Revisited, 114
New Houses from the Housewife's Point of View, The, 394
New Law of Property Act, 1925, 147
New Showrooms, 355
Norris, F. A., & Dutton, Ltd., 97
Northern Architectural Association, Session 1925-6, 311
Note Upon Architecture in Newcastle-on-Tyne and Durham, 21

OBITUARY :—
Chettle, Charles F., 374
Gale, Ernest Sewell, 410
Thornycroft, Sir Hamo, 458
O Concrete! 421
Old Cotswold Town—Burford, An, 236
Overcrowding, 168
Overcrowding of the Architectural Profession, 79

Palestine Pavilion, British Exhibition, Wembley, 96
Panelled Room at Hale Hall, The, 244
Park-belts in Australia and New Zealand, 463

Bdg. JUN 1926

Articles—continued.

"Permanence without Maintenance," 454
 Peter Post Memorial Hall, The, 348
 Peterborough Cathedral, 430
 Picturesque Corners of Savoy, 129, 145, 164
 P. & O. Steam Navigation Offices, London, 38, 67
 Present London Architecture, 408
 Problem of the Pediment, The, 223
 Property Auction Sales, 54

Railway Architectural Practice, 14
 Real Castles in the Air, 138
 Reconstruction of No. 28 Edwardes Square, Kensington, 111
 Regent Street Rents 166
 Rents of Houses under 1923 and 1924 Housing Acts, 133
 Restrictions on Tendering, 360
 ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS:
 Amendments of the Bye-Laws, 82
 Archibald Dawnay Scholarships, 336
 Architects and his City, The, 354, 367
 Condition of the Building Industry, The, 446, 466
 Conference, Newcastle-on-Tyne and Durham, 39, 45, 66, 68
 Construction of Buildings Considered Experimentally, 406
 Copy of a Letter sent to the President Re War Memorial Exhibition, 299
 Dawber, Edward Guy, 1
 Examinations, 251
 Facilities for Architectural Education, etc., Sub-Committee, 439
 Inaugural Meeting, 336
 Notes from the Minutes of the Council Meeting, 82
 Presidential Address, 321, 329
 Reconstitution of the Board of Architectural Education, 350
 Registration as Probationer R.I.B.A., 102
 Silver Medal for Recognised Schools, 251

St. Andrews Church, Stockwell, New Chapel, 432
 St. Mary's Abbey, West Malling, 274
 St. Paul's Cathedral Preservation Fund, 34
 Sale Bargains, 117
 Scholarships at Schools of Architecture Recognised by R.I.B.A., 427
 School of Modern Art for Architects and Others, 308
 Sculpture in the Library at Christ Church, 25
 Shops and Flats, Harrow Road, 346
 Shops, Oxted, Surrey, 216
 Should Women Enter the Building Trade? 406
 Side-Tracking Molesey, 16
 Skeletons of Bayham and Beaulieu, 29
 Social Hall, A, 465
 Some Architectural Epitaphs, 334
 Some Northumbrian Castles, 325, 399, 459
 Some Thoughts on Modern Architecture, 313
 Southend School of Arts and Crafts, 254
 Steel Houses and Mr. Coppock, 187
 Strainers, 364, 441
 Symbolism of Death in England—1440—1780, 272

Tenders, 86, 299, 320, 360, 374, 396, 414, 436, 454
 Terrifying Town, The, 179
 Thornycroft Type of Houses, The, 214
 Threeways, Wooburn Green, Bucks, 76
 Tintern Abbey, 328
 Too Late! 96
 Town Planning in Scotland, 409
 Trade Notes, 34, 54, 86, 140, 163, 174, 212, 214, 262, 282, 320, 342, 355, 360, 414, 428, 436, 450, 454
 Tragic Side of Things, 243, 271, 374, 440
 Transport Exhibition, Royal Agricultural Hall, 392

"Under a Dickens Rooftree," 450

Articles—continued.

University College, 50, 229
 Unproclaimed Masterpiece, An, 219
 Useful Diary, 450
 Victoria and Albert Museum, 388
 Vigo House, Regent Street, 251
 Village Inn, Bayford, Hertfordshire, 448
 Villain of the Piece, The, 187
 Vineyard Architecture, 407
 Visit to Dieppe and Pourville-sur-Mer, 83
 Wall Construction—"Utility" Method, 428
 Waterloo Bridge Again, 445
 Wembley Secrets Revealed, 408
 What is the Architect? 221
 Winchester Cathedral, 420
 Witton's Suburban Villa, 162
 Woman Architect Speaks her Mind, A, 150
 Zanelli Sculpture on the Victor Emanuel Monument at Rome, 23

Correspondence.

"Architect's" Building Prices, The, 294
 Architects and Professional Indemnity Agencies, Ltd., 254
 Architecture and Registration, 420, 470
 Art School Education, 356, 372
 Bungalows and Small Country Houses, 204
 Colour in Architecture, 254
 Correction, A, 28
 Foreign Cement for Public Works, 391
 Higgs & Hill and L.M.B.A., 50
 Hollow Floors and Roofs—London Building Acts (Amendment) Act, 1905, First Schedule, 294, 390
 Landed Property Registration Bill, 81
 Manchester Art Gallery Competition, 28
 Proposed Tudor Street, Kingston-upon-Hull, 28
 Public Works, Road and Transport Exhibition, 392
 Registration, 294, 308
 Relation in Art, 136
 Residential Qualifications, 243
 Sculpture, 222
 "Signed" Architecture, 181, 243
 Terminological Taunts, 169
 Timber—A Menace, 169
 Tintern Abbey, 356
 Tragic Side of Things, 243
 Waterloo Bridge, 391

Illustrations in Text.

Additions to Thirteenth Century Cottage at Denham, Bucks, 454
 Alhambra, The, Granada: Fountain, 75
 Alsatian Architecture, 288
 American Architecture, 175-177
 Annecy, 145-147
 Annecy-Le-Vieux, 146
 Antique Theatre, Arles, 184
 A.A. Pantomime, 455
 Arena, Arles, 184
 Artemis, Goddess of the Chase, by Sir Hamo Thornycroft, 457
 Ashley Chase, Dorset, 6
 Augustan Trophy, 184
 Aydon Castle, Northumberland, 325
 Bamburgh Castle, 459, 460
 Bayham Abbey, Sussex, 29, 30
 Beaulieu Abbey, Hants, 30
 Belsay Castle, 461
 Black Gate, Newcastle, 21
 Block of Shops and Flats, Harrow Road, 347
 Bolton Schools, The New School, 217
 Bowling Green, Melbourne Port, 9
 Bristol University New Buildings, 126-128
 Bronze Statue of Edward I, by Sir Hamo Thornycroft, 457
 Buckfastleigh Abbey, 291, 292
 Bungalow at Chilworth, 124
 Bungalow, "Utility" Method Construction, 428
 Burford, Pencil Sketches, 236-238
 Business Premises for Messrs. Austin Reed, Liverpool, 26, 27, 138
 Business Premises, Red Lion Square, W.C., 89-92

Illustrations in Text—continued.

Caen, 206-208
 Canada House, Cockspur Street, S.W., 105-107
 Canopied Gateway, Pourville-sur-Mer, 83
 Capitol Theatre, The, Chicago, 63
 Cascade St. Cloud, 255
 Central Research Laboratories of Radiation, Ltd., 278
 Chambery, 164, 165
 Chancel, St. Bartholomew's Church, Chichester, 310
 Chantry Hall, The Deanery, Southampton, 380, 381
 Chapel at Crompton above Thônès, 129
 Chateau De Montrotter, The, 129
 Church Street, Bradford-on-Avon, 385
 Cinemas: Plans and Elevation, 64, 65
 Cirencester Church, 443
 Clayton Street, Durham, 22
 Colour in Architecture, 239, 240
 Competition, Valletta, Malta: Plans, etc., 93-95
 Conflans, near Albertville: Old House, 165
 Conkwell Grange, Wilts, 4
 Constructional Sculpture of Jacques Lipchitz, 202-204
 Contemporary Danish Architecture, 258, 297, 389
 Cottage, Mudeford, Hants, 118
 Cranbrook Church, 442
 Danish Housing Schemes, 389
 Dawber, Edward Guy, F.S.A., 1
 Decorative Figure on Vigo House, Regent Street, W., 249
 Decorative Panel for Drawing Room, 314
 Design for Decorative Ceiling, 257
 Design for a Social Hall, 465
 Diana, by Paul Manship, 38
 Dilston Castle, 402
 Doctor's House at Swanage, 151
 Donkey Stealing Carrots, by Stella R. Crofts, 363
 Doorways, 66, 235, 289, 290, 303, 304, 313, 347, 405
 Dorchester Abbey, East Window, 441
 Dresser, Early Eighteenth Century, in Oak and Elm, 306
 Dressing Table in English Walnut, 306
 Drill Hall, Newburn-on-Tyne, 80, 81
 Duingt Castle standing above Lake, 130
 Electrolier, Liverpool Cathedral, 360
 Elevations in Kingsway, Aldwych and the Strand, 157-161
 Empty Saddle, The, by Capt. Adrian Jones, 255
 Entombment, The, by Antonio Maraini, 298
 Ewelme Almshouses and Church, Oxfordshire, 98-100
 Exeter Cathedral, 364
 Exterior of Business Premises for Messrs. Austin Reed, Ltd., 138
 Eye Church, 441
 Eyford Park, Gloucestershire, 4
 Figures Illustrating Industry, Vigo House, Regent Street, 272
 Finedon Church, 443
 Flats, No. 2 Mansfield Street, W.1, 309
 Foord Almshouses, Rochester, 6, 12
 From Menhir to Calvary, 352, 353
 Garden of the Casa Del Moro, Ronda, 76
 Gateways, 83
 General Plan of Aldwych and Kingsway, 160
 Generalife, Granada, 75
 Gloucester Cathedral, 442
 "Greenbanks," Lyndale, Hampstead, 462
 Hackney Electricity Demonstration Halls and Office, 280
 Hale Hall Panelling, 244, 246
 Hamptworth Lodge, Wiltshire, 7
 "Head of a Girl," by Miss Erica M. White, 439
 Hermit of the Atlantic, The, by Einan Jonsson, 371
 H.M. King Edward VII, by Capt. Adrian Jones, 256
 House, Beach Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, 149
 House, Charlottenlund, 270

Illustrations in Text—continued.

House, Danish Quarter, Philadelphia, 297
House, Doncaster, 338
House, Epsom Lane, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, 205
House, Finchfield Road, Wolverhampton, 188
House, Greystone Gardens, Harrow, 168
House, Headley, Surrey, 3
House, Silverdale Road, Bushey, 194
House, Springhead Estate, Haslemere, 323
House, South Coast, 10
House, Stockholm, 233, 234
House, Vestagervej in Ryvangen, 296
House, Walmer, Kent, 464
House, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, 5
Houses in the Engadine: Interior showing Vaulted Ceiling, 167
Houses, Percy Lodge Estate, 285-287
Interior, Albion Street, 307
Interior, by G. Alan Fortescue, 148, 167
Interior, House in the Engadine, 167
Interiors by G. G. Wornum, 314-316
"Inverted Arches," Wells Cathedral, 365
Ironmongers' Hall, 55-60
Kango Electric Mechanical Hammer, 54
King of Atlantes, The, by Einan Jonsson, 371
Kingsway, Aldwych and Strand; Elevations and Plans, 157-160
Kitchener Memorial Chapel, St. Paul's Cathedral, The Altar, 416
Landing Stage, The, Lierna, 382
Laon Cathedral, 384
Lincoln Cathedral, 444
Loggia, Boveridge Park, Dorset, 11
Loggia and Terrace, Coombe Ridge, Kingston, 11
London-Lancashire House, Leadenhall Street, 322
Maes Heulyn, Vale of Clywyd, 5
Maple Terrace, Apartments, Dallas, Texas, 39-42, 44
Mariefred, Sweden, 233
Mellows Stand at Birmingham Exhibition, 232
Menthon, View of Church, 130
Modern Style, The, 332, 333
Montricher's Aqueduct at Roquefavour, 183
Moro Village, Zamboanga, 355
Netherswell Manor, Gloucestershire, 2
Netley Abbey, 114, 115
Newcastle Castle and Keep, 326, 327
Norwich Cathedral, 365
Nutley Down, Hampshire, 8
Palace of the Popes, Avignon, 185
Palais de Justice, Aix en Provence, 182
Palestine Pavilion, Wembley: A Street, 96
Pannelled Room, Hale Hall, 244
Pediments, California Capitol, 226
Pediments, Capitol of Wisconsin, 224
Pediments, New York Stock Exchange, 224
Pediments, The Pathenon, 223
Pediments, Temple of Zeus at Olympia, 223
Pensions Office, Poole, 235
Percy Lodge Estate, 285-287
Peterborough Cathedral, 366, 416, 430
Pied Piper of Hamelin, by Miss Erica M. White, 440
Playhouse, The, New Canaan, Conn., 61, 62
Poet Stallgrim Pietarson's Monument, The, 372
Pont Flavian, near Aix, 182
P. & O. Steam Navigation Offices, London, 35-38
Police Headquarters, Copenhagen, 269
Portishead Church, Interior, 441
Priory Church of St. Mary, Blyth, Notts, 417-419
Quay House, Swanage, The, 151
Radnorshire Arms, Presteign, The, 385
Reconstruction of No. 28 Edwardes Square, Kensington, 111-113
Relief from Life, by Miss Erica M. White, 439
Restoration of the Great Pyramid, Tikal Quatemala, 132, 133

Illustrations in Text—continued.

Roman Aqueduct, Frejus, 183
Rushden Church, 442
Rye House, Hoddesdon, Herts, Oriel Window, 344
Rye Theatre, The, Rye, N.Y., 63
St. Hans Tveje Church, near Odense, 267, 268
St. John the Baptist, Pebmarsh, Essex, Porch, 370
St. Mary's Abbey, West Malling, 274-277
St. Omer, 384
St. Samson, Cricklade, 443
St. Saphorin, 407
St. Wolfgang's Church, 219, 220
Sentry Boiler and Oven, 54
Shelton Hotel, New York, 199-201
Shop Fronts, 141, 142
Shops and Flats, Harrow Road. A Block of, 346
Shops, Oxted, Surrey, 216
Side-tracking Molesey. Plan, 18
Sigtime on the Malar, Sweden, 233
Spanish Gardens and Patios, 75, 76
Stowell Hill, Somerset, 12
Straasburg Garden Suburb, 252, 253
Strainers, 364-366, 441-444.
Street of Roman Arches, Southern France, 185
Temple Tifereth Israel, Cleveland, 424, 425
Theatre Royal, Newcastle, 22
Thirty-five Storey Building designed after Primitive American Motives, 132
Thônes: Showing Sixteenth Century Tower, 129
Thorncliffe Type of Houses, Plans, 214
Threeways, Woburn Green, Bucks, 77, 78
Unitarian Chapel, Bury St. Edmunds, 343
Vevey, 429
Vigo House, Regent Street, 277, 299
Village Inn, Bayford, Herts, 448
War Memorial Chapel, Ely Cathedral, 2
Wardrobe in English Walnut, 308
Warkworth Castle, 399, 400
Wells Cathedral, 365
Westhall Manor House, 236
Wiveton Hall, Norfolk, 3
Wrought Ironwork Gateway, Pourville-sur-Mer, 83
Zanelli Sculpture on the Victor Emanuel Monument at Rome, The, 23, 24.

Leading Articles.

American Architecture, 175
Architect's Troubles, The, 285
A.A. Play entitled "The Touchstone or Architectural Explorations," 455
Architectural Practice and Procedure, 35
Art in Modern Life, 303
Building Crafts, The, 89
Character and Temperament in Design, 197
Competitions and their Reform, 73
Dawber, Edward Guy, F.S.A., 1
East Kent Regional Planning Scheme, 437
Elements of Form and Design in Classic Architecture, 19
History of English Brickwork, A, 344, 394
Ideal Architect, The, 123
Kingsway, Aldwych and the Strand, 137
"Laymen and the New Architecture," 215
Modern Art in Industry, 249
Our Greatest Problem, 397
Pitfalls of Criticism, The, 105
Plea for Simplification, A, 233
Practical Man, The, 267
Preservation of Ancient Monuments, The, 415
Presidential Address at the R.I.B.A., The, 321
Regional Architecture, 55
"Romanesque Architecture in Italy," 379
Shop Fronts, 141
Waterloo Bridge Controversy, 361

Legal.

Architects Win Claims for Fees, 356
Atkinson & Long v. Wellbrook Sanitary Laundry Co., Ltd., 356
Courtrai-du-Nord Tile Co., Ltd., v. James Dennis, Ltd., 449
Irvine v. Chisholm, 449
Libel Action by Architects, 50
Morgan v. Cowles-Voysey, 50

Notes and Comments.

Absurd Proposal, An, 347
Aldwych and Kingsway, 398
American Echoes, 287
American Small House Bureau, The, 108
Antiquarianism in Evidence, 178
Apartment Housing in the United States, 20
Architect's Functions, The, 217
Architectural Association's Pantomime Play, The, 416, 455
Artillery Memorial, The, 324
Arts of Early England, The, 74
Bequest by Lord Curzon, 74
Bombs or Squibs, 398
Book Which is Wanted, A, 178
Bought by America, 235
"Bricklayer's Charter," The, 74
B.C.A. Conferences, 324
British School at Rome, The, 20
Building in Kenya, 456
Building Situation, The, 217
Built-in Bookcases, 217
Carpenters' Company and the Trades Training School, The, 288
Change of Address, 288
Cheap Bathrooms, 198
Clearway Petrol Filling Station, 218
Clough-Ellis on Modern Villages, 125
Coal Settlement, The, 108
Coming of Age of the Heritage Schools, The, 438
Congestion of Traffic, 92
Consequences of a Small Dispute, The, 287
Contingency Clause in a Contract, The, 382
Cruisers v. Housing, 92
Dangers of Isolated Sites, The, 324
Development of East Kent, The, 398
Dockyards, The, 198
Dogma of the Front Door, The, 108
Dublin and Foreign Help, 251
Engineers' Club Dinner, The, 305
Epstein Controversy, The, 382
Extension of the Manchester Town Hall, The, 250
Foreign Tiles in Taunton, 125
Foundling Hospital Site, The, 178
Furniture, 218
Garden Cities and Town Planning Association, The, 20
Geneva War Memorial, A, 198
Good Arguments, 251
Guildhall, The, 382
Houses on the Percy Lodge Estate, 287
Housing as a Result of the Removal of Shingle, 125
Iron Schools, 398
Irregular Work, 438
Labour Difficulties, 235
Letter from Mr. William Woodward, A, 92
Limitations of Machinery, The, 108
L.C.C. and Waterloo Bridge, 362
L.C.C. and Wooden Houses, 142
London Development, 178
"London Statistics," 251
London Traffic Suggestions, 178
Low Rents, 198
Luxurious Public Buildings, 198
Manchester Art Gallery Competition, The, 20
Missionary Tower of Babel, The, 217
Mount Pleasant Post Office, 143
Nantwich, 125
Nationalities of New York, The, 250
New Hotel in Paris, A, 161
New Legislation Affecting Building Operations, 218

Notes and Comments—continued.

New Methods of Shuttering Competition, 305
 New Names for Streets, 438
 New Regent Street, The, 305
 New Theory of Greek Proportions, A, 178
 "Old English House," The, 287
 "Or Equal," 382
 Overcrowding of the Profession, The, 74
 Oxford, Cambridge and Architecture, 324
 Oxford Town Planning, 161
 "Paint" Dinner, A, 438
 Percentages and Services Rendered, 143
 Poole, 235
 Problem of Church Extension, The, 142
 Rent of Flats, 143
 Replanning of London, The, 347
 R.I.B.A. Soiree, 362
 St. Paul's, 126
 Sta Sophia, 125
 Scholarships in Architecture, 416
 Sculptor of Fountains, A, 362
 Shelton Hotel, New York, 198
 Smoke Abatement, 125
 Suggested Migration to Bloomsbury, 161
 Super Air Station at Croydon, The, 305
 Trades' Training School in Liverpool, A, 143
 Waterloo Bridge, 20, 288, 346, 362
 Wear a Poppy on Nov. 11, 324
 Well-paid Occupation, A, 251
 Welsh National Memorial, The, Site for, 142
 Wembley Exhibition, The, 324
 Westminster Property Values, 324
 Wet Time, 347, 456
 "Won't Crack" Houses, 74

Reviews.

Academy Architecture and Architectural Review, 70
 Architectural Construction, vol. I, by Walter C. Voss, S.B., and Ralfe Coolidge Henry, S.M., 363
 Architectural Forum for June, 61
 Architectural Practice and Procedure, by Hamilton H. Turner, F.S.I., 35
 Architecture des Pays-Bas Meridion-aux (Belgique et Nord de la France) aux XVI, XVII et XVIII e Siècles, Prof. Paul Parent, 445
 Art of Drawing in Lead Pencil, The, by Jasper Salway, 383
 Arts of Early England, The, by Prof. G. Baldwin Brown, 74
 Bungalows and Small Country Houses, 227
 Calculations for Steel Frame Structures, The, by W. Cyril Cocking, M.I.Struc.E., 70
 Collection de l'Art Régional en France, Rene Darde, &c., 445
 Damp Walls, by Ernest G. Blake, M.R.S.I., 410
 Design in Modern Life and Industry, Ernest Benn, Ltd., 110
 East Kent Regional Planning Scheme, by Patrick Abercrombie in Collaboration with John Archibald, 437
 Elements of Form and Design in Classic Architecture, by Arthur Stratton, 19
 English Rooms and their Decoration at a Glance, vol I, by Charles H. Hayward, 333

Reviews—continued.

French Cathedrals, Amiens, Chartres, Paris, Rouen, by Jocelyn Perkins, M.A., &c., 262
 History of English Brickwork, A, by Nathaniel Lloyd, O.B.E., 344, 394
 Kelly's Directory of the Building Trades, 227
 Laymen and the New Architecture, by Manning Robertson, A.R.I.B.A., F.R.A.S., 215
 Manual of Technical Plumbing, A, by S. Barlow Bennett, 410
 Modern Building Practice, vol. II, by William Harvey, 110
 Modern Style, The, Ernest Benn, Ltd., 332
 Oxford Renowned, by L. Rice Oxley, 227
 Preliminary Report on Internal Improvement Scheme for Consett, by R. Hardy Syms, F.S.I., M.S.A., 144
 Reinforced Concrete, by Albert Lakeman, 227
 Relation in Art, by Vernon Blake, 76
 Roman Alphabet and its Derivatives, by Allen W. Seaby, 410
 Romanesque Architecture in Italy, by Conrado Ricci, 379
 Short History of the Building Crafts, A, by Martin Shaw Briggs, F.R.I.B.A., 89
 Spanish Gardens and Patios, by Mildred Stapley Byne and Arthur Byne, 75
 Unknown Essex, by Donald Maxwell, 76

INDEX OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

** THE LITHOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATIONS WILL BE FOUND OPPOSITE TO THE PAGES QUOTED.

Albert Road, Regent's Park, London, No. 36, 234
 Altar Piece, Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Andrews, Stockwell, 287
 Altar Piece and Pannelling, Gillingham Church, Dorset, 438
 Arras, 416
 Ashley Chase, Dorset, 6
 Bolton School, The, Plans, 217
 Bungalow, Camberley, Surrey, 234
 Bungalow, Chilworth, 124
 Bungalow, Design for, 456
 Bungalow Quarters, Kumasi, Ashanti, 456
 Business Premises, Corner of Wellington Street and Strand, 161
 Business Premises, Marylebone Road, London, 20
 Business Premises, Piccadilly, 6
 Business Premises, Soho Square, London, 287
 Butterhall, Bruges, The, 161
 Camberley, No. 2, London Road, 20
 Capture of Carthage by Scipio, 178
 Chantry Hall, The: The Deanery, Southampton, 380, 381
 Church at Hindley, Lancs, 74
 Clearway Filling Station, Kingsdown, Kent, 178
 Cottage at Hornchurch, 270
 Cottage, Oxhey, Herts, 398
 Design for Memorial to the Missing: The Menin Gate, Ypres, 107, 124, 142
 Details—North Doorway, Parish Church, Fernhurst, Sussex, 380
 Devonshire House, London, Sketch Design, 305

Dongga Mausoleum, Morocco, 438
 Durham Cathedral, 20
 Eagle Star and British Dominion Insurance Co.'s Premises, Model, 234
 Elevations in Kingsway, and Aldwych 157-161
 Foord Almshouses, Rochester, 6, 12
 Gateways, Valletta, Malta, 305
 House, Boyle Farm, Thames Ditton, 416
 House, Design for a Country, 362
 House, Kingsdown Road, Epsom, 58
 House, Longdown Road, Epsom, 270
 House, Moor Park, 416
 House, Newbury, 398
 House, Wareham Road, Croydon, 270
 House, Woodland Way, Coulsdon, 38
 Houses, Mill Hill, A Pair, 234
 Houses, Springhead Estate, Haslemere, 287, 322, 323
 Ironmongers' Hall, 55-60
 Kingsway and Aldwych, Elevations and Plans, 157-161
 London-Lancashire House, Leadenhall Street, 322
 Masonic Hall Competition, Designs, 92
 Memorial Cross, Silkstone, Yorkshire, 322
 Memorial Hall, University College, London, 456
 Memorial to the Missing: The Menin Gate, Ypres, Working Drawing, 107, 124, 142
 Model Bakery, Design for, 74
 Moor Park Building Competition, Winning Design, 362
 Nottingham New Town Hall, Council Chamber, 438

Office Premises, Antwerp, 20
 Office Premises, London, 38
 Old Doorway, Rue Haute, Antwerp, 161
 Ostheoe, 416
 Peterborough Cathedral, 416
 P. & O. Steam Navigation Offices, etc., London, 38
 Portal and Minaret, Tlemcon, 380
 Railway Offices, Nairobi, Competitive Design, 250
 Rape of the Sabines, The, 198
 Rue de la Chaise, Antwerp, 161
 St. Germain des Pres, Paris, 250
 St. Nicholas du Chardonnet, Paris, 250
 School for Boys, Grand Avenue, Worthing, 198
 School of Economics, London, 161
 Scipio Rewarding his Soldiers at Carthage, 178
 Shops and Flats, Harrow Road, A Block, 346
 Shops, Oxted, Surrey, 216
 Siena: Pencil Drawing, 124
 Sultan's Tombs, Marrakesh, Morocco, 438
 Wans Dyke End, Hungerford, 398
 Welsh National War Memorial, Cardiff, Proposed Scheme, 216
 West Front and Central Tower of a Cathedral, 20
 Winchester Cloisters, 142
 Winchester, Hull Stairs and Second Master's House, 398

ARCHITECTS AND ARTISTS.

Adshead, C. T., 217
 Atkinson, Robert, 74
 Baillie Scott and Beresford, 270
 Blomfield, Sir Reginald, 107, 124, 142
 Bradshaw, H. Chalton, 216
 Bryant, Herbert, 380, 381
 Bucknell, L. H., 322
 Bullock, Albert E., 198
 Colcutt and Hamp, 38
 Collins, M. E. & O. H., 322
 Cook, G. H., 161, 250, 416
 Dakers, W. Sydie, 346
 Dawber, E. Guy, 2-12
 Dawson, Byron, 20
 Downing, H. P. Burke, 287, 438
 Farey, Cyril A., 398

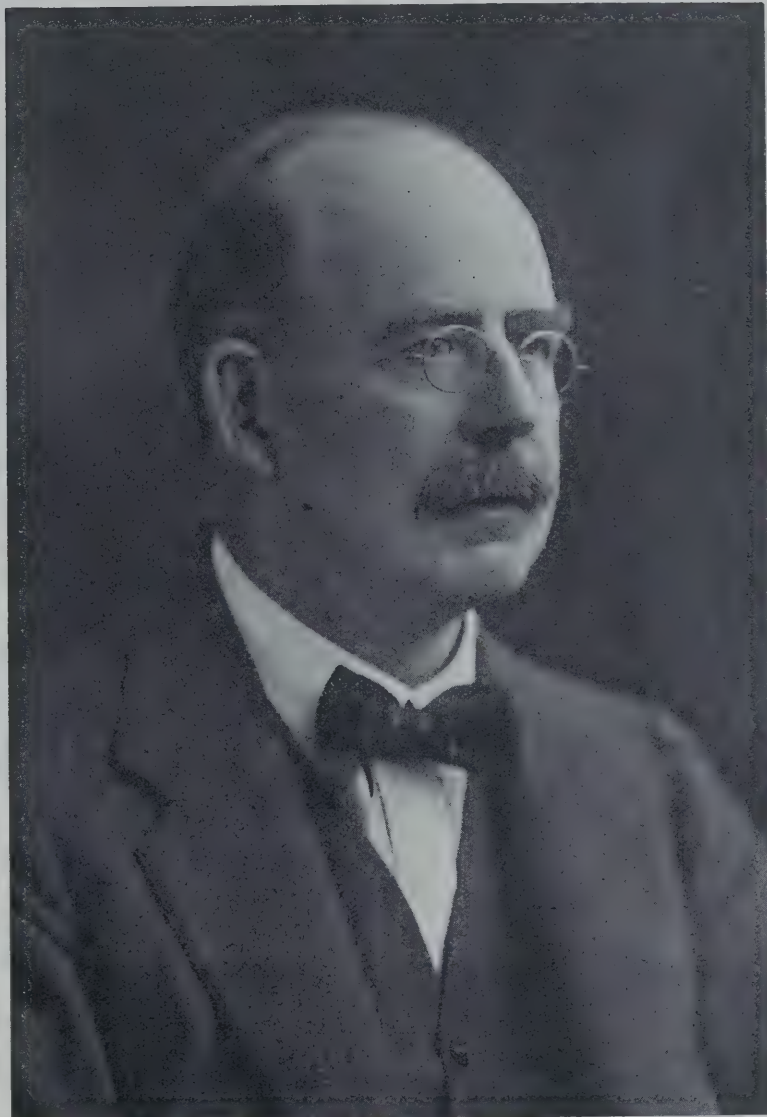
Fisher, A. Hugh, 398
 Fortescue, G. Alan, 287, 322, 323, 416
 Fraser, Hugh, 142
 Green, Wm. Curtis, 124
 Gunston, E. Leslie, 20
 Gunton and Gunton, 234
 Healey, A. J., 234
 Hepworth, P. D., 362
 Howitt, Cecil T., 438
 Joseph, Ernest M., 287
 Kemp, Wm. C., 380
 Ledward, Gilbert, 216
 Lowry & Woodhouse, 416
 Minty, R. J. Hugh, 456
 Mitchell, Cecil T., 250
 Mountford, E. W. & Partners, 216

Myer, G. Val., 74, 92
 Nicholls & Hughes, 38, 58, 234, 270
 Nicholls, Hughes & Humphrey Wyatt, 398
 Poole, F. Leonard, 456
 Poulter, Brian, 124
 Poulter, H. Reginald, 20
 Richardson & Gill, 456
 Romain, Jules, 178, 198
 Scott, Baillie & Beresford, 270
 Smith, F. Sutton, 178
 Smith, C. Wontner, 362
 Smith, J. Wontner, 234
 Tatchell, Sydney, 55-60
 Tomlins, E. Frazer, 305
 Trehearne & Norman, 161
 Wallis, Gilbert & Partners, 20
 Waterhouse, Michael, 398

CONTENTS.

Edward Guy Dawber, F.S.A.	PAGE 1	Railway Architectural Practice	PAGE 14
Foord Almshouses, Rochester	6	Side-tracking Molesey	15
The Holbrook Competition	12	General News	16

Edward Guy Dawber, F.S.A.



In the new President of the R.I.B.A. we meet a very old friend, for "Guy Dawber" has been known by his fellow architects and the public as one of the most prominent of our domestic architects for the last 25 years. His name, together with that of Norman Shaw and Ernest Newton, will go down to posterity as a leader who has sought and obtained inspiration from our great traditions of the past and shown architects how they can carry on those traditions in buildings for future generations. No age can know itself as it is, and it is only after the lapse of time that we can safely generalise, but it is certain that when the records of the last thirty years have become history the name of the President will stand out prominently. Mr. Dawber was born at Kings Lynn in Norfolk and artied in an office in that town. His experiences were similar to that of many who years ago endeavoured to gain experience in the average provincial practitioner's office in which a varied and miscellaneous work had to be carried out, much of it having little direct relation to architecture.

In 1880 he attended one of the Architectural Association's annual excursion and came for the first time into contact with students who sought to increase their knowledge by measuring and sketching old work, a practice which he afterwards followed with ardour and which unquestionably contributed to his subsequent success. After the completion of his articles he entered the offices of Sir Thomas Newnham Deare, in Dublin, where, in addition to his office work he took the opportunity of studying fine Georgian architecture of the 18th Century in Ireland. Leaving Ireland at the end of a year Mr. Dawber came to London and entered the offices of Messrs. Ernest George and Peto, with whom he remained for many years. He joined the Royal Academy School of Architecture, gaining both the Lower School Premium in 1884 and the Upper School Premium in 1885 and was a "runner up" for the Academy gold medal in a year when competition was exceptionally strenuous. As he had strained his eyes with overwork Messrs. George and Peto availed themselves of his services in the capacity of a clerk



WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL, ELY CATHEDRAL. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.

of the works on a large town house and Batsford in Gloucestershire, the two works covering a period of some three years.

Most of his spare time when in Gloucestershire was spent by him in examining and studying the methods of

local building among the Cotswold Hills, the results of which he subsequently embodied in a book entitled "Old Cottages, Farm Houses and other Stone Buildings in the Cotswold District," which was published by Messrs. Batsford in 1905, in which he described and analysed



REBUILDING OF NETHERSWELL MANOR, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.



NEW WING AT WIVETON HALL, NORFOLK.

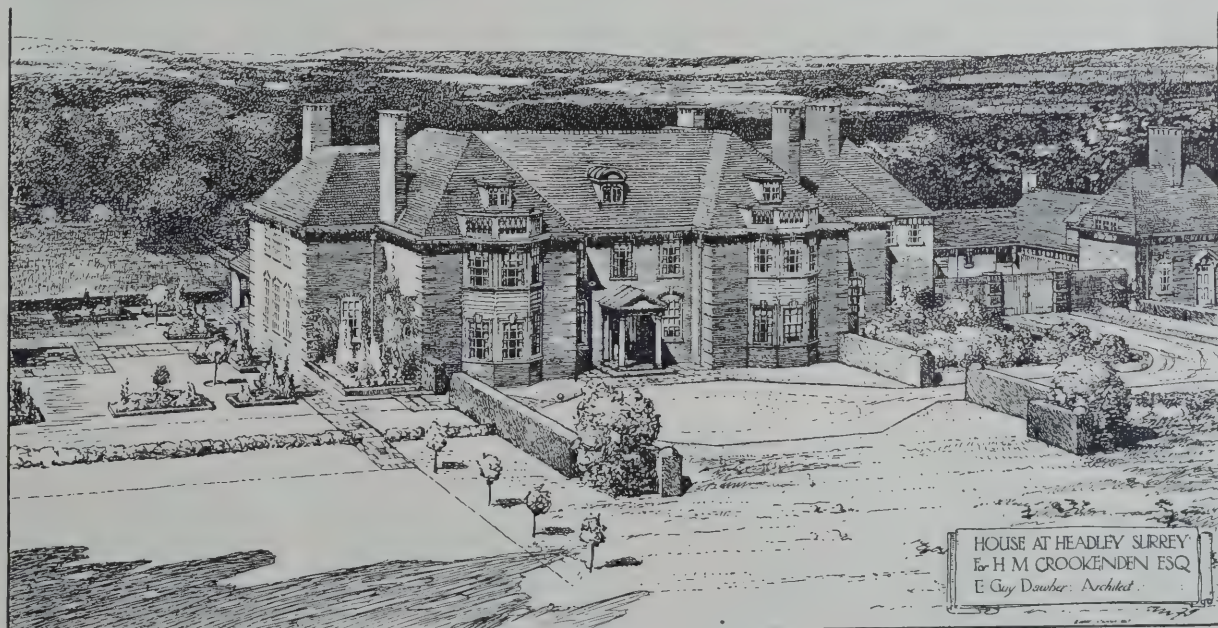
the character and charm of a series of old traditional buildings which have had an especial appeal to him.

In 1891 Mr. Dawber commenced practice, and with the nucleus of a local connection formed during his residence in Gloucestershire made gradual but steady headway. His work is always looked for on the walls of the Architectural Room at the Academy and he is one of those whose name and achievements are well known in America and abroad wherever the excellence of modern English architecture is receiving attention and study.

His experience has been unusually thorough, both in new and old work of a domestic type and no man has worked with more single hearted devotion and assiduity in a definite field. He considers he owes

much to what he learnt from Ernest George, whose example and enthusiasm was stimulating to all those who came into intimate contact with him, but Ernest George was fundamentally a revivalist with a keen sense of effects which bordered a little on stagecraft. The great houses he built now appeal to us as charming efforts of fancy stamped indelibly by Ernest George's passion for the picturesque in form. The great work he did was to instil a freedom and freshness into design, much needed after the dull and tasteless formalism of the middle decades of last century.

Mr. Dawber's work on the other hand, like that of Shaw and Newton, has a sincerity and forcefulness based on a greater knowledge of tradition and on greater restraint than was possible with a temperament like



HOUSE AT HEADLEY, SURREY.



CONKWELL GRANGE, WILT'S.
E. GUY DAWBER, ARCHT.

GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



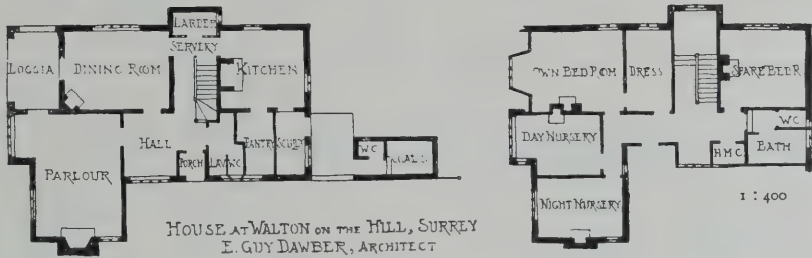
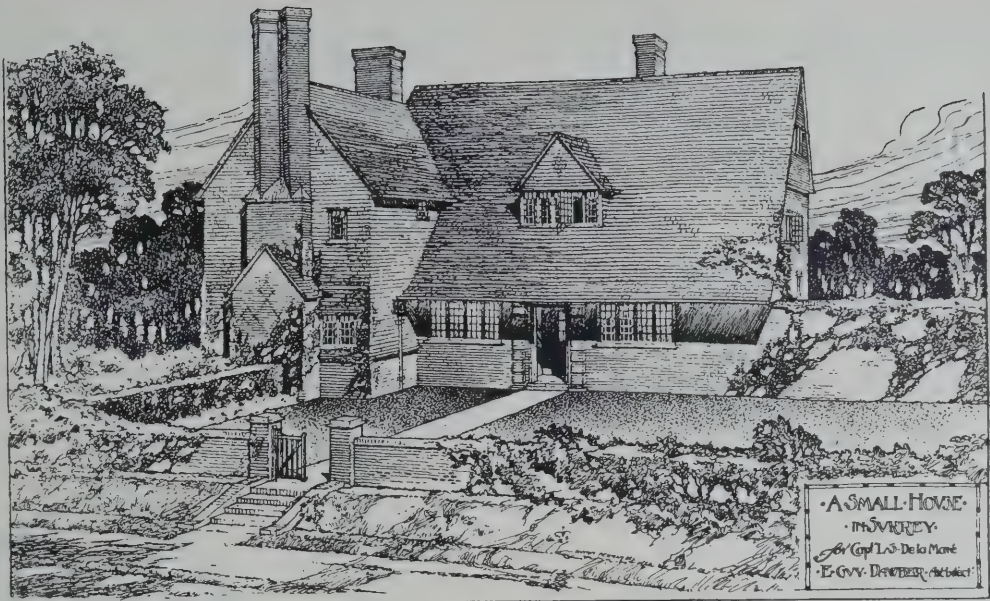
EYFORD PARK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.

that of Ernest George. His work will therefore live and go down to posterity while that of Ernest George will enjoy less lasting fame.

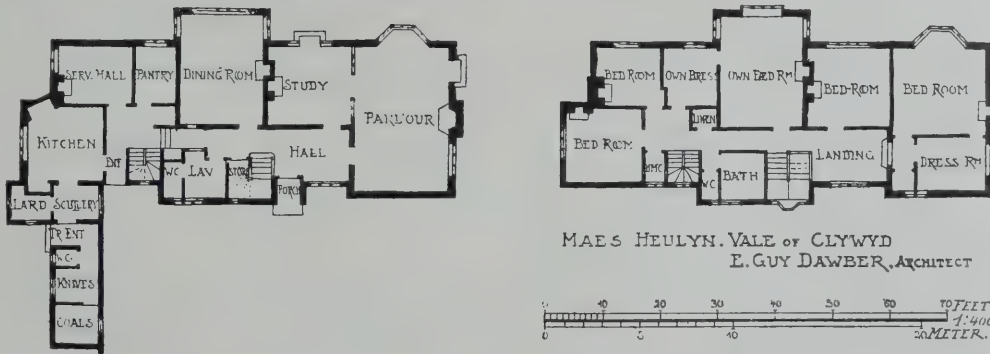
The wave of production of artistic work sweeps on and we cannot at any one epoch be certain what will stand out as permanent achievement and what will

secure more temporary approbation, but looking back on Mr. Dawber's works of past years we recognize in one and all of them the quality which will give them a lasting place in the history of English architecture.

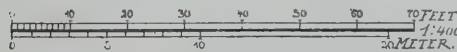
Mr. Dawber has taken his full share in professional work but no part in professional controversy. He



HOUSE AT WALTON ON THE HILL, SURREY
E. GUY DAWBER, ARCHT



MAES HEULYN, VALE OF CLYWD
E. GUY DAWBER, ARCHT



belongs to the Architectural Association, has served on its council and was its President for 1904-5. He has been a member of council of the R.I.B.A. for many years, has acted as Honorary Secretary and Vice-President, and has now been elected to its greatest office to the satisfaction of the profession who honours him and recognises his achievements. He has been elected as a F.S.A. and will, we confidently expect,

yet receive greater recognition of the position he has attained as an architect. The burden of the duties of a president of the R.I.B.A. are now great, especially to one whose dominating characteristic is a love for his work rather than a desire for professional honours, but Mr. Dawber's energies will doubtless be more devoted to those fields which concern the greatness of an art than to those

which are more concerned with the material fortunes and position of its practitioners. In so doing he may be taking the best course to achieve the latter object and to achieve it in a manner which will be

more effective than the director one followed by others.

Mr. Gotch filled the office of President in years of controversy, Mr. Dawber succeeds to it in an era of Peace.

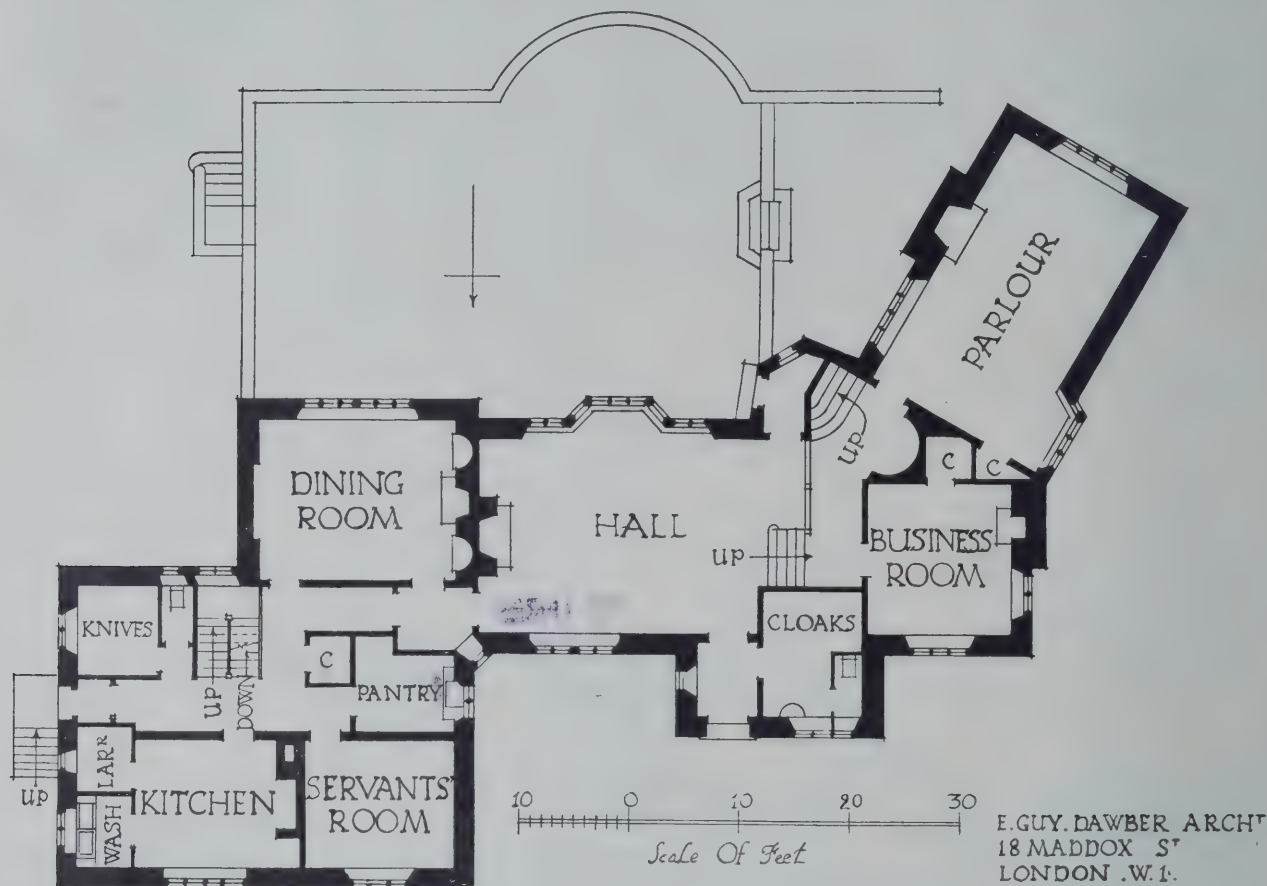
Our Illustrations.

ASHLEY CHASE, DORSET.

FOORD ALMSHOUSES, ROCHESTER.

BUSINESS PREMISES, PICCADILLY.

The work of
E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.,
Architect.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN, ASHLEY CHASE, DORSET. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.

Food Almsouses, Rochester.

These almsouses are being built on an open site on the north of Priestfield Avenue, and are planned around three sides of a quadrangle open to the south, so that the inmates will be sheltered from the north and east winds and will enjoy all the sunlight possible. There will be a low wall dividing the buildings from the roadway, and the almsouses will be approached by a stone-flagged path crossing a belt of grass some 40 ft. wide stretching in front of the entire length of the buildings and terminating at each end by a screen wall with trees planted behind the same. On each side will be the matron's and superintendent's houses respectively, both connected by a balustraded parapet with the entrance gateway in the centre and a short flight of steps leading down to the great central quadrangle, which, owing to the levels of the site, will be some 3 ft. below the grass terrace before mentioned.

Immediately opposite the entrance on the northern side of the quadrangle will be the hall, some 36 ft. long by 24 ft. wide, entered through an open arched loggia facing south. On each side of the hall, which will be used for general meetings, lectures, teas, or any other special purpose, there will be a recreation or reading room, one for the men and one for the women, each with a large bay window facing south, and fitted with fireplace, cupboards and book-shelves, &c., approached through a lobby, with cloakroom and lavatory accommodation. Each house is planned with a good-sized living room or parlour with a

bedroom opening out of it, a scullery with cupboards, larder, lobby and lavatory, for each inmate, and space for fuel, &c. The bulk of the houses are planned on one floor with blocks of two-storied houses in the centre of each side, and also at each extreme angle of the quadrangle. They will be built of a multi-coloured brick by the Dorking Brick Co., with Doulton stone dressings to the windows; iron casements and leaded lights, by Mr. John Pye, of Moreton-in-Marsh; tiled roofs, by Messrs. Ames & Finnis; and lead gutters, by Messrs. T. Elsley & Co. The contractors for the work are Messrs. G. E. Wallis & Co., of Maidstone; and the architect is Mr. E. Guy Dawber, of 18 Maddox Street, London, W.1.

Ashley Chase, Dorsetshire.

This house is built of local stone from the estate without any dressings and with the natural face of the stone left as it comes from the quarry.

The mullioned windows are of Ham Hill stone by the Ham Hill & Doulting Stone Co.; glazed with steel sashes and leaded lights by John Pye, of Moreton-in-Marsh.

The roofs are covered with Cornish grey slates laid in diminishing courses and of rough texture with the eaves courses of large stone slates from the locality.

The house has been designed to harmonise with the wild surrounding country. Anything in the nature of formality has been avoided.

No general contractor is being employed.

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ASE. DORSET.

L.I.B.A., F.S.A., ARCHITECT.

D. HEPWORTH.

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ELEVATION OF HALL & RECREATION



VARDEN'S HOUSE.

ENTRANCE FRONT



ELEVATION OF EAST & WEST

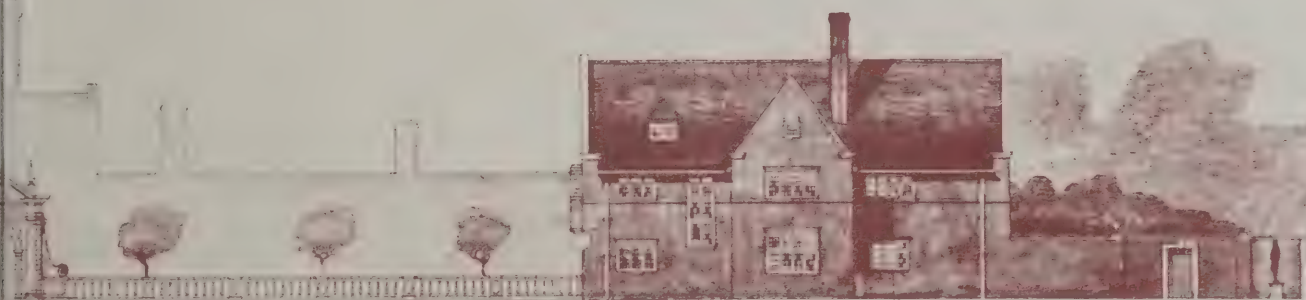
JULY 3rd, 1925.

HOUSES ROCHESTER

DUROBRIVÆ
HROFFE-CLASTER
ROCHESTER



ROOMS TO QUADRANGLE FACING SOUTH.



PRIESTFIELD AVENUE

SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE



WINGS FACING QUADRANGLE.

J. C. CAY, ARCHITECT
15 MARK LANE, LONDON E.C. 3

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USES, ROCHESTER.

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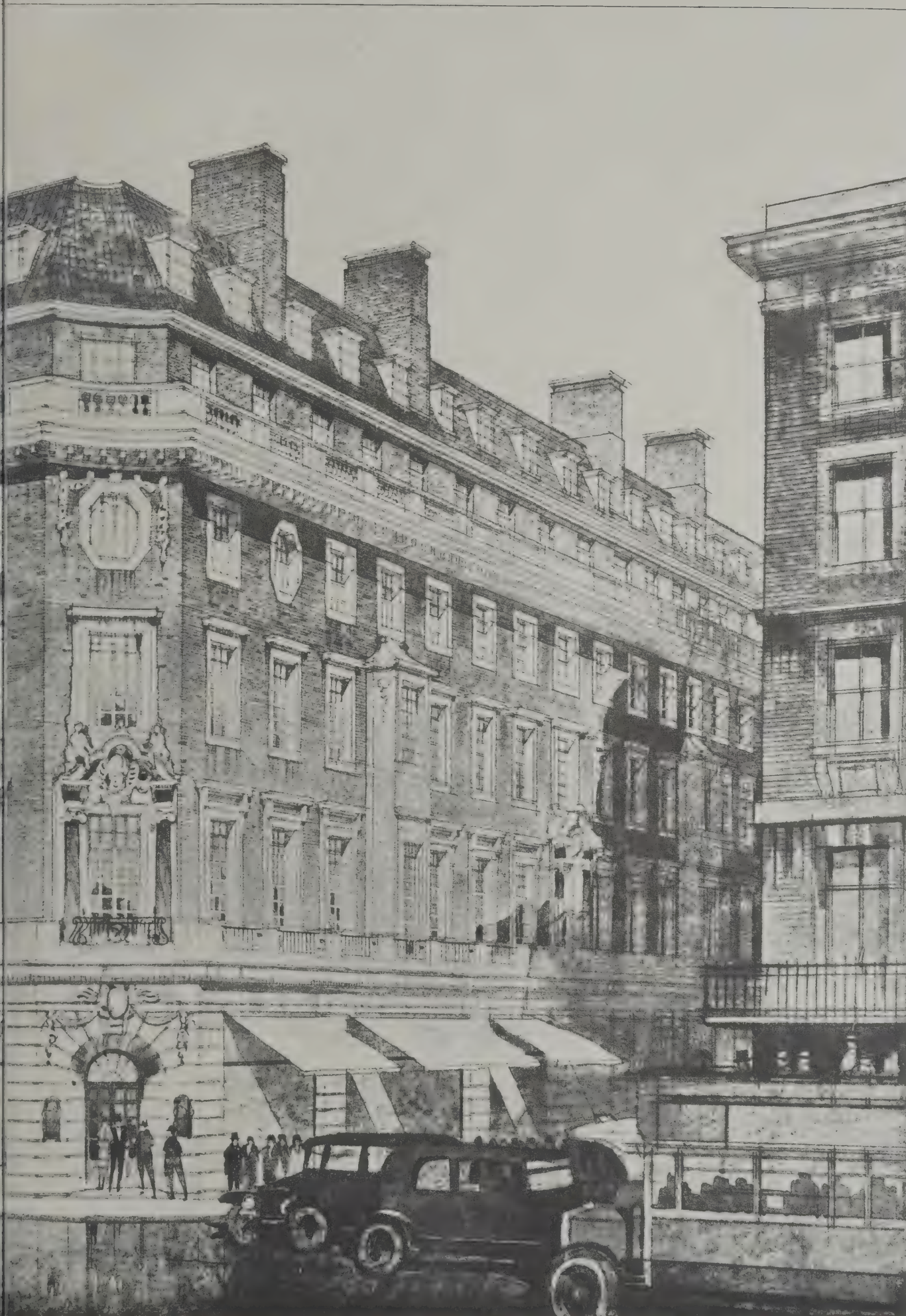
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PREMISES IN PL

E. GUY DAWBER, P.

ULY 3rd, 1925.



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DILLY, LONDON.

A. F.S.A., ARCHITECT.

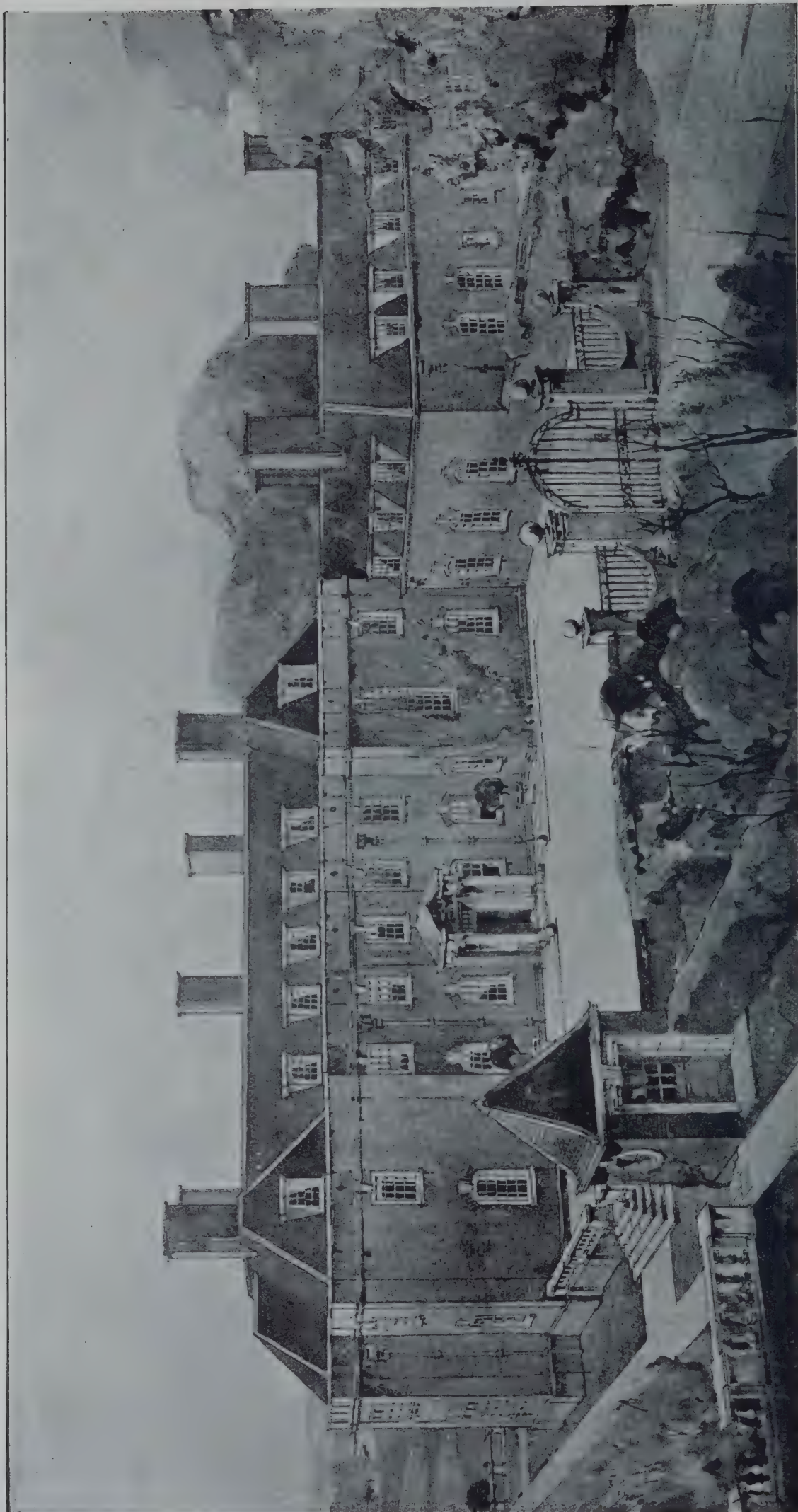
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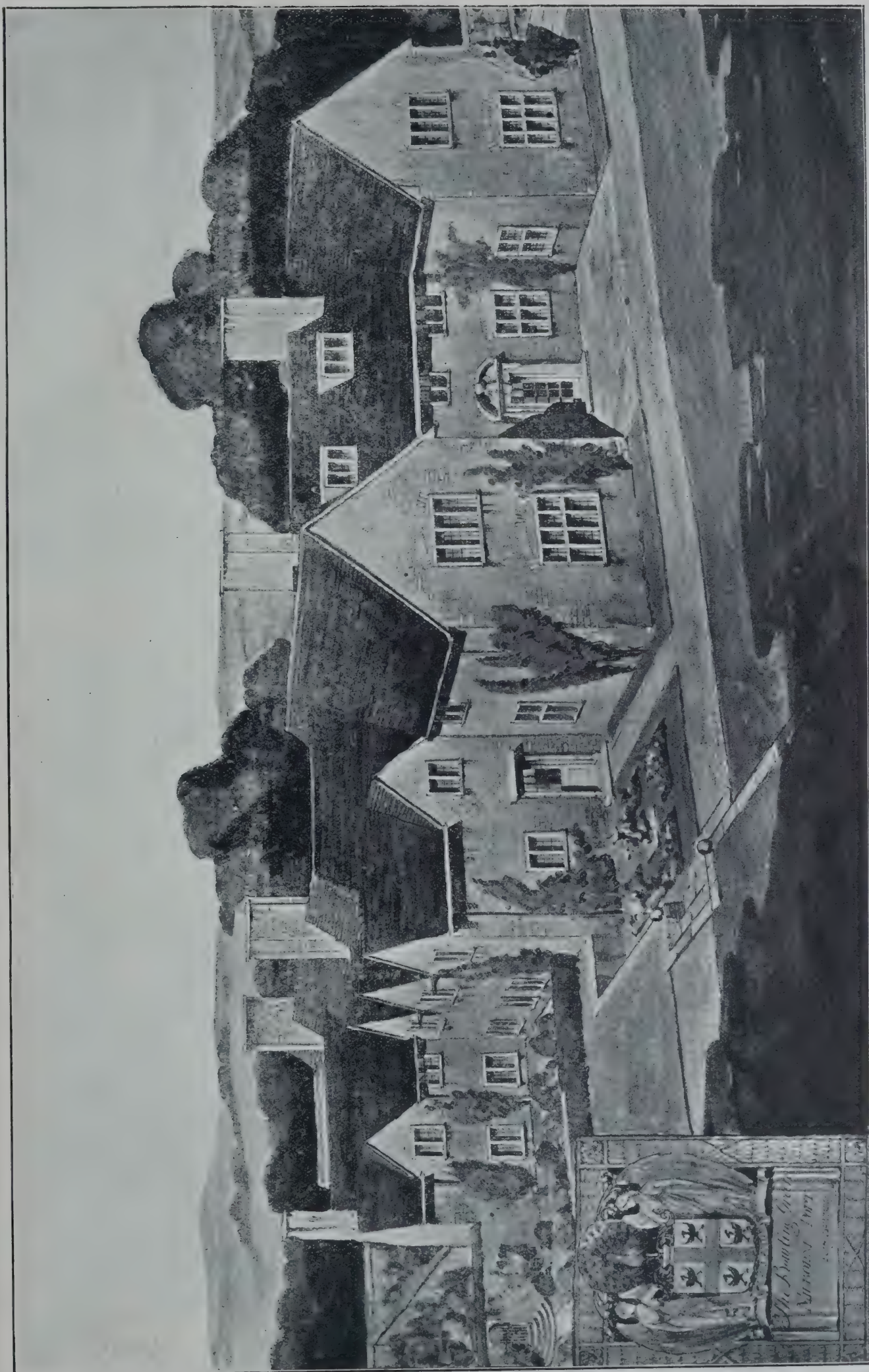
HAMPTWORTH LODGE, WILTSHIRE. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.

HAMPTWORTH LODGE:
WILTSHIRE: E GUY DAWBER
ARCHITECT. □

F. J. WATSON. LAMET. GILT. 1913



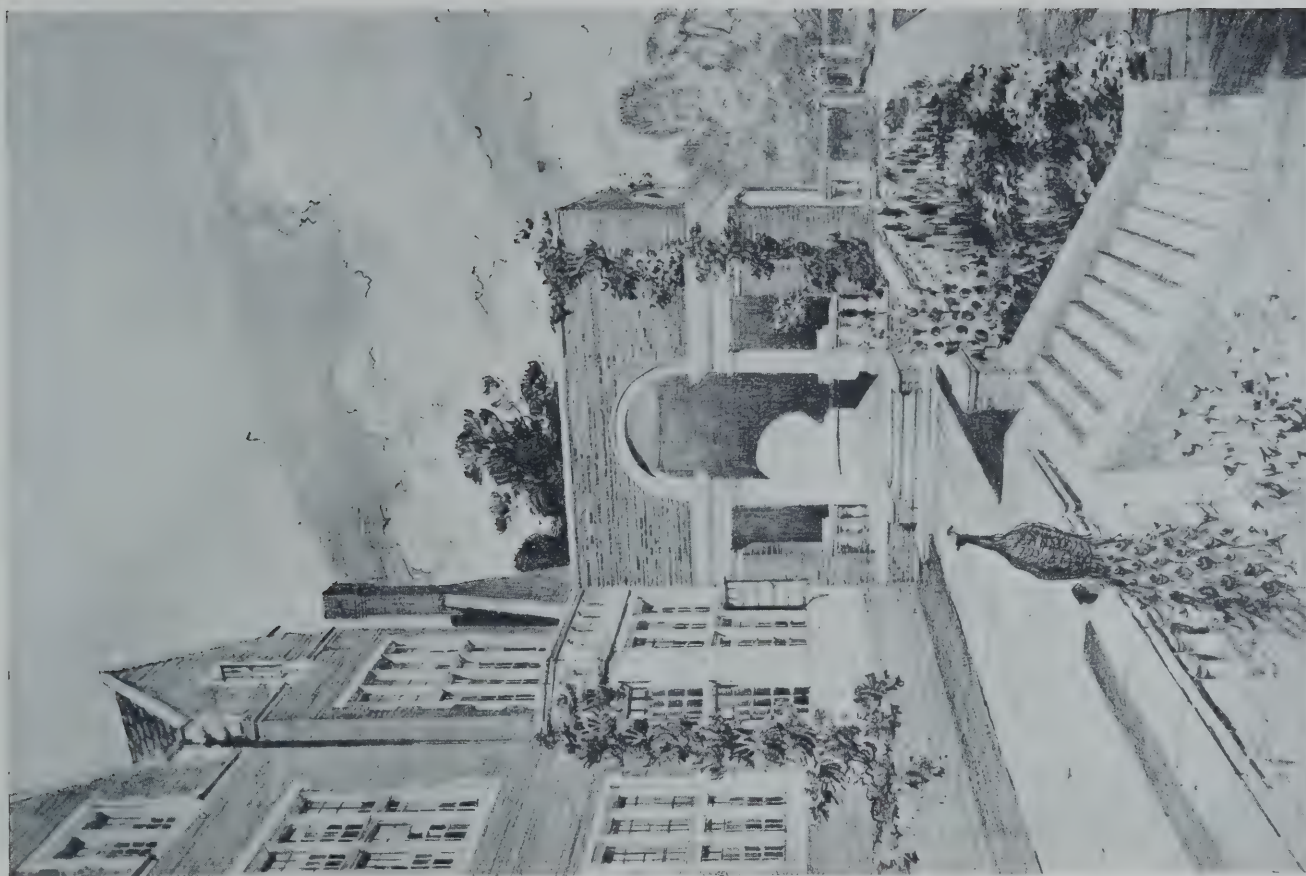
NUTLEY DOWN, HAMPSHIRE. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.



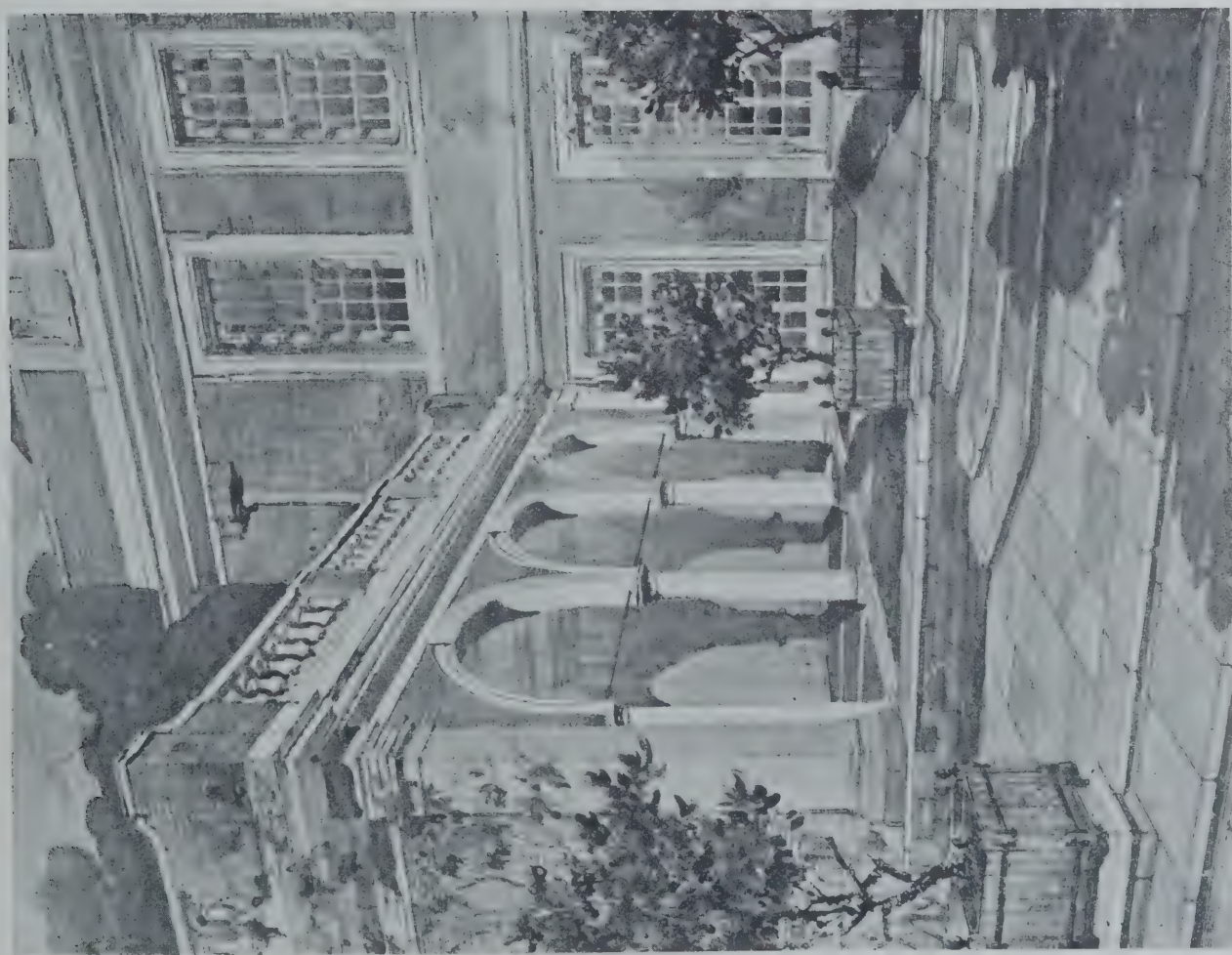
THE BOWLING GREEN, MELBORNE PORT. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.



HOUSE ON THE SOUTH COAST. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.



NEW LOGGIA AND TERRACE AT COOMBE RIDGE, KINGSTON.
E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.



LOGGIA AT BOVERIDGE PARK, DORSET.



STOWELL HILL, SOMERSET. E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.

The Holbrook Competition.

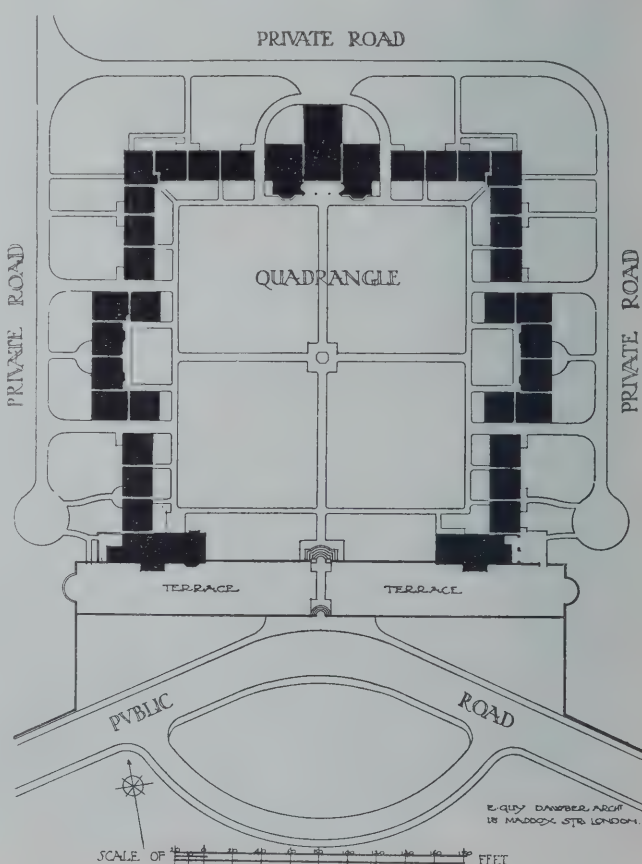
We are glad to have an opportunity of commenting on the whole of the designs submitted for this most important competition for a building, which, like Greenwich Hospital, will serve a national purpose.

In the design by Messrs. W. & T. R. Milburn, of Sunderland, the hostels for students are disposed in a straight line, in the centre of which is a square domed chapel, fronted by the administrative offices. Behind this is the parade ground, in the rear of which are the main school buildings. At one side of the parade ground are placed the gymnasium and swimming bath, and on the opposite side the dining hall and kitchens. The school block is wholly one storeyed and arranged round two quadrangles separated by the higher mass of the assembly hall. Outside this central group of buildings are the officers' houses, hospital, and industrial block, the whole forming a well co-ordinated plan arranged on strictly utilitarian lines.

Mr. E. Vincent Harris's scheme is arranged on a somewhat similar plan, with the chapel as before forming the central feature of the range of hostels. In front of this is the parade ground, faced right and left by the school and dining hall, the gymnasium and swimming bath forming the fourth side of the parade ground. The last two buildings are separated by a colonnaded space, in the centre of which the water tower is placed. Beyond this group again on either side are smaller blocks containing the music house and administrative block, and in front of the entrance courtyard and main gates is an open place in which two diagonal roads intersect, and along these are disposed the houses. Both the detailed planning and the architectural treatment of this scheme—which we understand secured a second place—are admirable, and show the greatest refinement and skill.

Messrs. Adshead, Topham and Adshead submit a design in which the school block is placed between two sets of hostels, each "wing" of the hostels being bent backwards. In front of the school is the parade ground, flanked on one side by the gymnasium and swimming bath, and on the other by the chapel. This grouping is hardly satisfactory, as the two masses do not in any way

balance one another, and so rather destroy an effect which is based on principles of symmetry. Opposite the schools are the administrative offices, and beyond them again the dining hall and stores. The authors have designed a good workable school, but its layout hardly produces an effective group.



LAY-OUT PLAN OF THE FOORD ALMSHOUSES, ROCHESTER.

E. GUY DAWBER, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Architect.

In Messrs. Marshall Mackenzie and Son's scheme the hostels are arranged round a segmental curve, of which the dining hall forms the centre. In front of this is the parade ground, on one side of which is the school block, the other being formed by the gymnasium and swimming bath, and between them the chapel. The water tower in this design forms the centre of the school building to which it is attached.

In Messrs. Nicholas and Dixon Spain's plan the hostels are—as in the winning design—planned in two rows. The school block forms the centre of the composition, with the chapel and assembly hall on either side of it, connected to it by columned ways, the whole forming a school court, on the fourth side of which is the administrative block, which again faces the parade ground. The latter is flanked on one side by the swimming bath and gymnasium, and on the other side by the dining hall.

The elevational treatment is simple, but a little wanting in charm.

After an inspection of the above designs it is possible to form a better general impression of the merits of the winning design, which seems to us to have greater outstanding excellence than any of the others, and which undoubtedly is based on what is the best layout of any design submitted. From an important practical standpoint Messrs. Buckland and Haywood have scored in their disposition of the hostels, which are more conveniently placed in relation to the school than in the other schemes. From an æsthetic standpoint the authors have given their design great dignity by combining in one great building the school, gymnasium, swimming bath and administrative offices, for this by its comparable size and importance easily dominates the whole group. We feel that several of the other designs would, if executed, suggest a group of scattered buildings rather than a great school with accessories. As these buildings are for educational purposes, to replace the Naval School at Greenwich, it seems most desirable that they should, as far as possible, suggest a great public monument, and we think in this respect Messrs. Buckland and Haywood have clearly outdistanced any of their competitors.

We are inclined to summarise by saying that this limited competition has produced two designs of great merit, and that the remaining four designs can hardly be said to be in the running. Of the two designs the winners alone seem to us to have completely grasped the idea that they were designing a great national building and not a merely institutional one. Mr. Vincent Harris's design shows a fine conception of effects, but a comparatively small school chapel seems to be an insignificant climax to a great scheme. The school itself with its assembly hall and class rooms is unquestionably the greatest unit of those suggested, and for that reason the winners were unquestionably right in making it dominate everything else, treating the dining hall and kitchens and the sports buildings as subsidiary parts of one building. We cannot believe that had the proposal to hold this competition been generally known that it would have failed to appeal to a large number of able architects who never heard of it, and that out of these the selected number would have produced six designs of higher quality, but it is satisfactory that chance has given the Admiralty one design of outstanding merit, an outcome which their procedure hardly deserved.

Mr. Vincent Harris's design has great merit in its careful and scholarly detail, and fine composition, and the drawings submitted by him are easily the best of those shown. But just as Waterloo was said "to be won on the playing fields at Eton," so may we say a competition of this character is won, or should be won, on its site plan, and no subsequent refinements of planning can compensate for an initial mistake made in the disposition of the buildings on a site.

POPULAR.—An estimate of £48,000 for buildings and plant in connection with the development of the electricity undertaking has been prepared for submission to the Electricity Commissioners.—Messrs. Hooper, Cushem & Co. are to build an addition to Messrs. Burrell & Co.'s factory in Ingleheim Place.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JULY 3, 1875.

A PUPIL GRATIS!

From time to time the architectural profession is startled by some liberal announcement, emanating from within or without its pale, for which the profession was totally unprepared. Some years ago Mr. Street communicated the substance of an offer that had been made him by some "architects" in Adam Street, offering to work out any sketches, even of the roughest description, and to prepare, even from notes, designs and working drawings at the shortest notice, and on the most reasonable terms. With the encouraging kind of patronage and more than princely offers of Competition Committees, every reader of this journal must be more or less familiar. The Town Council in the North that offered £5 for the best design of their Town Hall is a well-known case. Not, perhaps, so well known is the advertisement which offered competing architects £1 for the best design, and a leg of mutton for the third! The last encouragement offered is in the shape of a "gifted youth," on behalf of whom "a Clerk in Holy Orders," who keeps a school somewhere in the Marylebone Road, has addressed a lithographed letter to certain architects—possibly to every architect—in London, wherein the reverend gentleman expresses his desire that the architect he addresses will take his "gifted youth" without any premium, and the young man's very respectable parents have the kindness to add that he may serve six months without any remuneration. But lest some readers may think such an offer too good to be true, here is the letter *in extenso* :—

Dear Sir,—I should feel greatly indebted to you, if you would take into your office a pupil of mine who has a most decided talent for architectural drawing. My drawing master says that he is the most gifted youth he ever taught; and that he would be a real acquisition to any architect. You could see his drawings and test his knowledge as you please. He is sixteen years of age; has been in my school some years, and has received a fair education; his conduct is irreproachable. His parents are very respectable, yet cannot offer any premium; but would be very glad that he should serve six months without any remuneration. Trusting you will pardon this liberty, taken in behalf of a very deserving young person.—I have the honour to be, dear Sir, yours most obediently,

* * * * Clerk in Holy Orders.

The one awkward thing is that unless the Clerk in Holy Orders keeps a good stock of gifted and irreproachable youths, the architects of London may be all hoping in vain to be the fortunate possessor for six months of this "real acquisition." And only imagine when the final step is taken what jealousy and bitterness will be aroused among the mass! what congratulatory speeches among the more distinguished and accomplished architects! Then, too, there is such an interesting mystery woven in with the letter. The drawing master, the "most gifted" himself, and his very respectable parents, for all we know, may be members of the aristocracy. One thing is clear, however, and that is that neither the Reverend Clerk nor his drawing master can have any base or mercenary motive in this offer to us of a pupil *gratis* for the parents are too poor to offer *any* premium much less any commission. Indeed, the whole transaction, the largeness and nobility of it remind one far more of Trimalchio than of a nineteenth century London schoolmaster. The air of assertion in it is full of the atmosphere of old Roman life. Doubt or hesitation has no existence in the Clerk's mind as he contemplates his admirable pupil, and the only marvel is that such a loving Clerk should be ignorant of the fact that architects are, strange to say, men like himself, that they bleed when they are pricked, laugh when they are tickled, are, strange to say, fed with the same food, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means as Clerks in Holy Orders are. Should, however, this ignorance place a bar in the way of his *protégé*, we may venture to suggest that the schoolmaster should apply at Buckingham Palace or Downing Street for a post more worthy the youth's acceptance. One question may not unfairly be put to this exemplary Clerk, that is, whether he receives in his school young gentlemen on the same terms as those he suggests for architects?

OLDBURY.—Worcester County Education Committee have instructed the architect to prepare plans for a headmaster's house at a cost of about £1,000 on the site of the new secondary school at Oldbury.

PAIGNTON.—The Urban District Council have agreed to subsidise a further 50 houses.—It has been decided to erect the public abattoir on the site at Holloway Hill.—Tenders for several schemes for the incineration and pulverisation of refuse are being considered.—Plans passed: 30 houses off Totnes Road, for Mrs. Vickers.

Railway Architectural Practice.

By J. E. Reid.

In view of the wide interest that is being taken in the Railway Centenary, a few notes by one who has for many years been engaged on railway architectural work may not be out of place.

In looking back to those years of small companies, we find that much of the important railway architectural work was done by the private architect, and after these smaller companies became absorbed by larger ones, the private architect was relinquished in favour of an official architect who carried on the work with a large staff. This was an economical, as well as a desirable move, as can be seen by anyone who has had to do with a railway architectural office, because few realise what the work consists of, which is enormous and varied. Big things engage the architect's attention as well as small ones. Large hotels, stations, extensive buildings to house the varied activities pursued by the companies, station master's houses, cottages, and the laying out of estates, institutions, herring curing factories, offices, large factories, engine and other stables, garages, warehouses, commercial premises that are let to outsiders, wooden erections and kiosks. In fact, there is hardly a building that does not receive the attention of the railway architect at some time or another.

The problems, too, that the railway architect is called upon to solve are sometimes difficult—principally in the alteration to existing premises. There is hardly a large railway station that has not been altered at some time or another. They are constantly being tinkered with as the needs of economy require, because space in the station is ever a pressing problem.

In the alteration to a large station where no interference with the work of the station is permissible or the lives of the passengers or companies' servants endangered, the work of the contractor is exceedingly slow. Very often he is tied down to what are called plans of procedure, where certain works have to be completed before others are started. These observances entail the erection of a number of temporary barriers and exits and means of protection. And again, certain work can only be pursued at certain periods of the day and night, and in the case of working in close proximity to a running line, look-out men have to be provided by the contractor to warn workmen of the approach of a train. All of these restrictions have to be paid for, and enhance the cost of the work enormously.

A private client, when he requires any new work or alterations to existing buildings done, goes direct to the architect without any hindrance, but before any railway work can be commenced, a certain amount of red tape is followed. Ideas for new work or suggestions for alterations are received from the different individuals employed, who hand them on to their immediate superior for consideration, through whom it reaches the head of that particular department. The idea is circulated amidst other officials concerned. After observations have been made as to the advisability of the scheme it is sent to the architect. He draws up a plan in which he tries to embody the idea, after which he returns it from whence he received it. After a while the scheme is returned to the architect with suggestions for further alteration. The architect prepares another scheme and sends it forth upon its journey again. This goes on until some unanimity of opinion is agreed upon. The architect is next requested to make an estimate. The question of cost is ever an important one with a railway company. Before the architect can furnish an estimate, it is necessary to know if the proposed scheme will upset the arrangements of other activities, and if so, what it will cost to have them altered to meet the new scheme. The plan has to be sent, perhaps to the signal engineer for the cost of alterations to his signals; to the telegraph engineer for the cost of alterations to his telegraph and telephone poles and wires; or to the engineer for some alteration to running lines or buffers. After the architect receives these estimates he can prepare his own. This is sent on an official form together with the other estimates, all in tabulated form, and is called the Official Estimate, and no other is recognised for the purpose of

negotiation. From this you can see that it never does to give a perfunctory estimate to any one, because this figure is sure to come back upon you when the official estimate, after being submitted, is found to exceed the amount. Sometimes the proceeding is reversed. The engineer in preparing a new lay-out for a new railway, writes to the architect for an estimate for all the various buildings that will be required in connection with his scheme. He usually sends site plans of all the new stations on which are the levels of the proposed new buildings. Before the architect can furnish an estimate, it is necessary to work out these levels and see how much the floor lines of the new buildings are going to be above the natural ground line. This is obvious, because in the majority of railway schemes, there is always a great deal of filling in required.

It will be seen that all railway procedure as regards new work is exceedingly slow. After the estimates have been submitted, the schemes may be nipped in the bud on account of cost, and shelved, so to speak, for a more favourable opportunity. Should the scheme meet with approval, however, the plan is returned to the architect duly signed by some one in authority. The architect has to now carry out the work. Plans are prepared, quantities are taken off, and the scheme is sent out to various contractors in the usual way. The lowest man most often procures the work.

The railway company with which I am familiar had, in the last year, considerably over one million pounds worth of architectural sketch plans and estimates prepared. If all of these schemes had fructified, an enlargement of the staff would have been necessary to carry it out. In the years when the railway company was earning large dividends and prices were lower, a great deal of the estimated schemes were carried out. Now it is different. The fettering hand of cost is much in evidence. As many of the above were for extensive alterations to old buildings, the question of cubing resorted to in case of a new building was quite impossible. Separate measurements had to be taken. In the scale of charges laid down by the Royal Institute of British Architects in respect to sketch plans and estimates the architect is entitled to charge 3 per cent. for small works, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for larger ones. Think, then, what the percentage on £1,000,000 would amount to alone, and what an enormous saving it is to the company to have an official architect. Thousands of plans of existing buildings are stowed away in the office of the railway architect which are constantly being referred to in the case of alterations, some of which are procured at a minute's notice, which in the case of the private architect would be awkward.

Many estimates and schemes that were prepared during the war had to be laid aside owing to the almost prohibitive cost of labour and materials. Since then and up to the present these schemes have come to life again, and are sent to the architect at different times for amended estimates. To do this without resorting to going extensively into figures again it is necessary to study the past prices, how they rose and fell, of which a record has been kept. The following method is followed, which, though not perfect, saves an amount of time. As an example, suppose a scheme prepared in 1914 came to £10,000, and in October, 1920, the same scheme came up again for consideration and an amended estimate was required. On looking at the tables we find that things costing £100 in 1914 were in October, 1920 (exclusive of ironfounder), costing £350. A simple sum gave the desired answer:—

$$\text{thus } \frac{£10,000 \times £350}{£100} = £35,000, \text{ or } 250\% \text{ advance.}$$

And suppose another scheme which was estimated in July, 1921, cost £15,000, and an up-to-date estimate was required. On looking up the tables the value of £100 in July, 1921, was £345.2, and to-day it is £201.25. The following sum gave the desired answer:—

$$\text{thus } \frac{£15,000 \times £201.25}{£345.2} = \text{say, } £8,745, \text{ or a drop of } 42\%.$$

To estimate on sketch plans is not the easiest of work.

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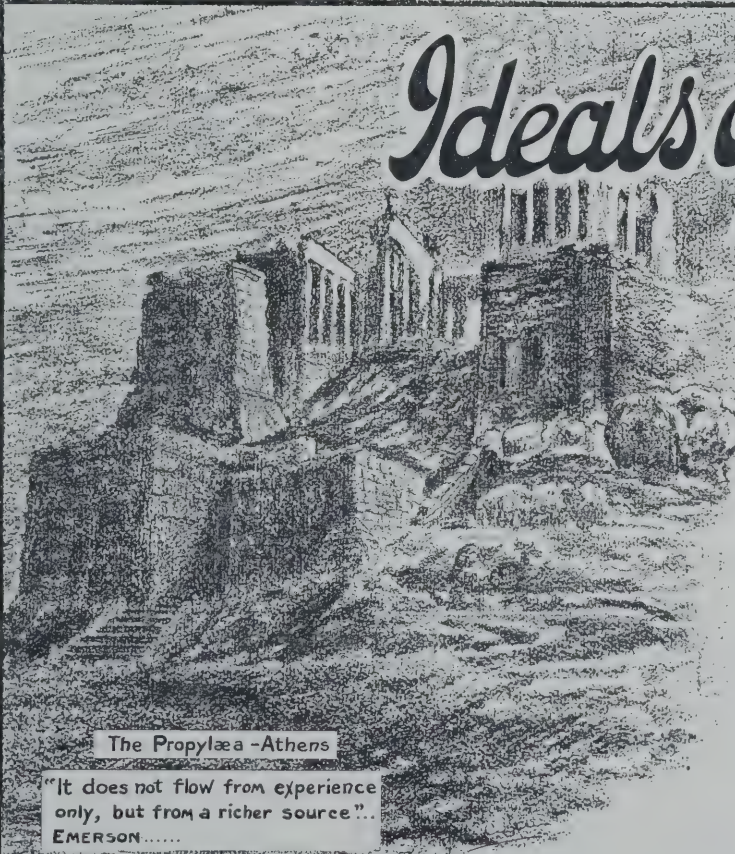
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It requires an intimate knowledge of construction, a vivid imagination, and a familiarity with prices in bulk. During the last years, estimating has not been a bed of roses for anyone, because the rise and fall of prices has caused a deal of worry and confusion. Sometimes it may be found necessary to alter a scheme after it has passed beyond the sketch plan and estimate stage, and the contract drawings prepared. How this comes about it is not for me to say. But here is a case in point that might be cited as an example. The contract plans for an extension to a large station were nearing completion when word came that the engineer had decided to move his rails two feet. Now, as there were many platforms with areas of glass and steel over them, the whole scheme had to be re-drawn. This kind of thing is very irritating, and would hardly happen to the private architect.

All kinds of material is used in railway architecture, and during the war, when prices were high, different methods of construction were adopted to avoid using those things that were scarce and expensive. But in all railway building those materials that are strong and enduring are used as against the ornamental and beautiful. Timber has been used with excellent effect on the railway. Many wayside stations—especially of the island type—are of wood, with light glazed roofs spreading over the platforms like umbrellas. Wood is light and very suitable for buildings erected upon made-up ground, because the fabric can be carried upon beams supported upon concrete piers. Wood always speaks a language of warmth, and can be painted from time to time, producing an effect of newness.

Any architectural effect in a station must necessarily be restricted. Large areas are taken up with the railway lines, which in the absence of trains open out vistas of blackness. The smoke from the engines, too, gradually disfigures any architectural effect as well as grimy advertisement boards. When locomotion becomes dissociated from smoke the outlook of the railway architect will be more hopeful.

Seeing how extensive are the ramifications of the railway travelling over areas of land coming within the jurisdiction of multitudinous town councils, U.D.C.'s and rural districts, it will be seen that the architect, in view of new or altered buildings, has to consult the various bye-laws of the districts concerned, and his stock of pamphlets is accordingly large. He is not in the fortunate position of a local architect who knows the bye-laws by heart in his particular district, and can adopt his plan to pass the written and unwritten clauses. He has often to wade through a mass of superfluous wordage. Buildings that are within the precincts of the railway station proper are exempt from sending in plans.

In view of the reduced dividends of the railway companies the future of railway architecture does not look rosy. Economy is the slogan to-day, and now that the amalgamation is a fact, the principle of economy will be strictly maintained. Cost and utility take precedence against expenditure over style. But there is no doubt that the railway architect's office offers a thorough knowledge of construction and semi-engineering schemes which does not often come within the scope of the private architect.

Side-tracking Molesey.

The old-world spot of East Molesey is being made the victim of autocratic bureaucracy. The Surrey County Council, together with the Ministry of Transport, are determined to impose upon it a bridge, misplaced, and an arterial road, unwanted, at an estimated cost of close upon £500,000. The only hope of upsetting this abuse of power is by publicity.

It is admitted that for modern requirements a stronger and wider bridge over the Thames to connect East Molesey in Surrey with Hampton Court in Middlesex is wanted, and as a corollary the approach to such a bridge will necessitate the widening of Bridge Road in East Molesey. The Urban District Council of East Molesey have propounded a scheme to cover requirements. It has the approval of Sir John Wolfe Barry & Partners, who have been consulted.

According to the proceedings of the Surrey County Council published November 11, 1924, the new arterial road determined upon is not, in itself, a necessity. It is a mere afterthought for extricating their engineer out of a simple engineering difficulty over the new bridge. To make this point clear, the recommendation of its Highways and Bridges Committee is reproduced here *in extenso*.

"*Hampton Court*.—The joint report to be prepared by the engineer of the Middlesex County Council and the County Surveyor (of Surrey) upon the above bridge is not yet ready for submission, but as a result of their investigations and discussions it is probable on account of the difficulty of adopting the existing bridge to modern requirements a recommendation will be made that a new bridge should be built on a site east of the existing bridge. In view of this the County Surveyor has submitted a scheme for the construction of a new road, 80 feet in width. . . . The committee have approved of the scheme in principle."

There is no essential difficulty in the way of building a wider bridge.

The new road is absolutely purposeless. It relieves no congestion of traffic because, *vide* the Barry report, "None of the traffic to or from London would have any occasion to use it," and "it would only serve the comparatively small traffic between Hampton and Esher." Up to now no one

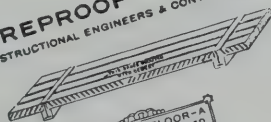
has been successful in securing a fair reply to the fair question as to what particular ends it will serve. The Barry report certainly hazards the suggestion that "the only advantageous feature about it appears to be its utility as a means of developing the property through which it passes." There may, or may not, be a sting in this suggestion. By Molesey Council's scheme just as much property would be opened for development.

The construction of the road will injure Molesey. To grasp this fact it is necessary to point out that the "take off" of the new bridge is to be shifted over 100 yards away from the ascent in Bridge Road of the present bridge and that the malign effect of this removal can only be appreciated by a consideration of the following.

Molesey is situated to the west and west only, of the Southern Railway, with the railway station, known as Hampton Court Station, adjacent to the river. The reason why no development of the town has taken place east of the line is simply because it is undevelopable. Periodically it is several feet under water. In passing, it may be as well to mention that in the construction of the new road above flood level tens of thousands of cubic yards of material will have to be found. In a word, the railway line divides the inhabited part of the town from the uninhabitable. Other than by a short pathway along the river front, leading to the railway goods yard, and at a level-crossing, which is practically outside of the town, the east and west parts are unconnected, the distance between the connections being about a mile.

Now the principal road in Molesey is Bridge Road, which, as its name implies, leads on to the existing bridge. In it are the chief business and bank premises of the place. Landmarks, amenities, centuries of tradition are attached to it. Once, however, the new bridge is built and the old one demolished, it will be Bridge Road no more, for instead of leading to the bridge it will lead into the river, whilst the new bridge will lead to the uninhabitable, periodically waterlogged, part of the town east of the railway line. True, a connection with the new bridge will be made where now the path to the goods yard exists, but it will be a most awkward road, sure to cause congestion of traffic on holidays and local race days. In a word, Molesey will be side-tracked.

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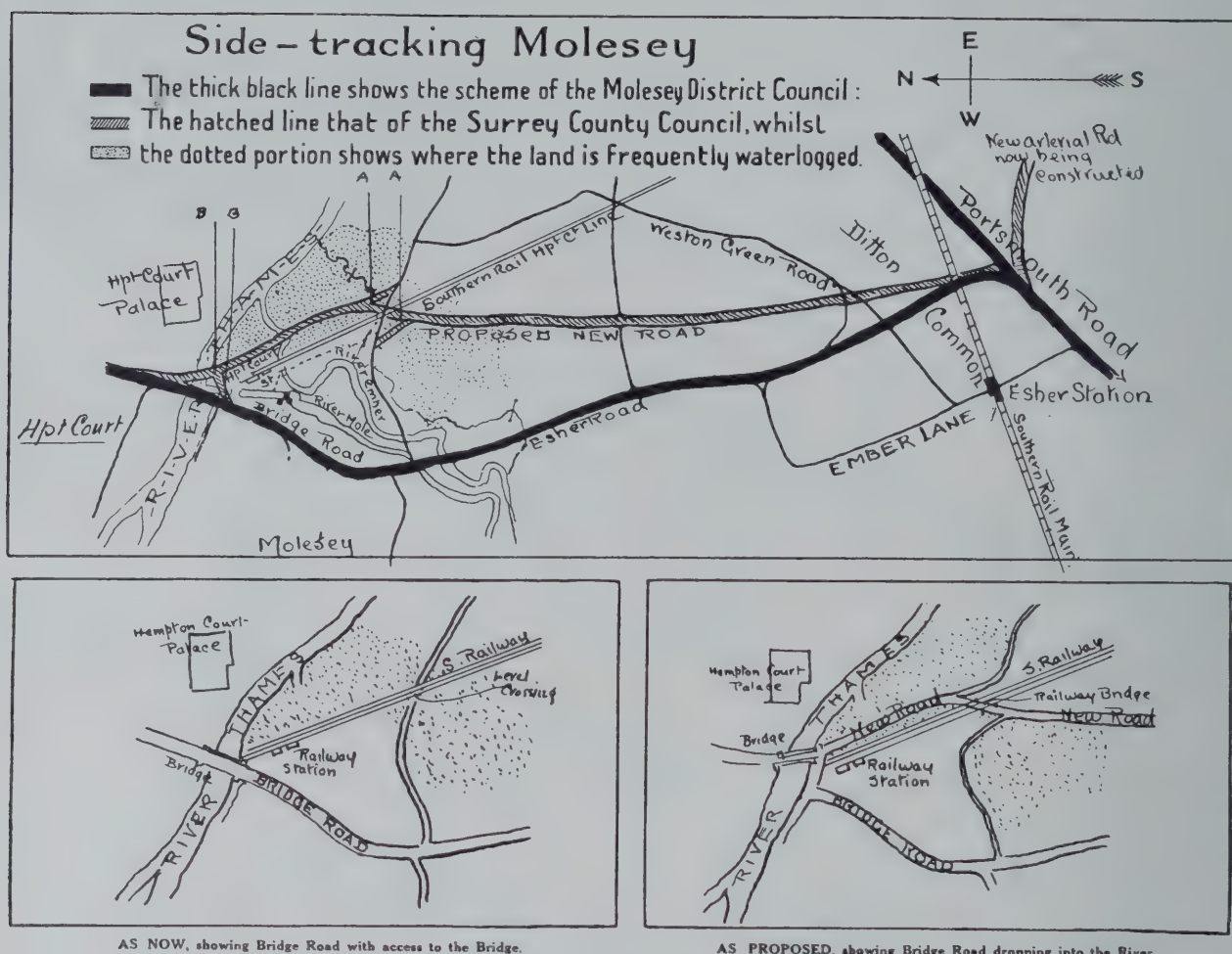
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As the Barry report succinctly puts it—"It seems to us a great waste of money to embark on the scheme when, in our opinion, a much better result would be obtained" by adopting Molesey's alternative scheme, regarding which

which congests and destroys the roads, for the upkeep of which owners of motors are heavily taxed. If the owners of motor lorries and heavy char-a-bancs were forced to pay for the damage they caused to the roads they would prob-



the Surrey County Council reply that "no facts or arguments were submitted which in any way modified" their views. So wide and sweeping is this condemnation that it reveals bias.

In a great number of cases it would seem that the action of the Road Board and the Ministry of Transport was mainly undertaken in the interest of the owners of motor lorries and heavy traction vehicles. It is this traffic

ably find it cheaper to send their goods by rail, while local rates would be lightened and traffic convenience would be automatically obtained. The railways which have had to pay heavily for construction and for upkeep are in fact damaged by severe competition of heavy road traffic which is made possible because the cost of the damage done is distributed among the owners of light motor cars doing little or no damage to the roadways.

General News.

BATTERSEA.—Messrs. J. Lyons & Co., Ltd., have a proposal for adding a storey to their one storey shop at 24 St. John's Road. —Plans passed: additions, Welsh Chapel, Beauchamp Road, for Messrs. G. Packer & Sons, Ltd.; 12 houses in Nightingale Lane and other roads for Messrs. H. & E. Wooding; additions to Messrs. Freeman's premises, 103 Lavender Hill, for Messrs. Joseph; additions to factory in Elcho Street, for Mr. F. S. Underwood.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Plans for the layout of the Charminster Road site are to be revised in order to provide for a larger number of flats than originally suggested.—The Education Committee are considering as to the site for the new elementary school.—Plans passed: additions, Imperial Hotel, Bath Road, for Grand and Imperial Hotels, Ltd.; additions, St. Ambrose Hall, Alumhurst Road, for Churchwardens; alterations, Pembroke Hotel, Poole Road, for Messrs. Knowland Bros.; 5 houses, Victoria Park Road, for Messrs. Eaton & Haywood; 5 houses, Elmes Road, for Messrs. Jones & Sims; 11 houses, Southbourne Drive, for Messrs. Midgley & Hardy, Ltd.; Church and Schools, Christchurch Road, for Trustees.

CHORLEY.—The Corporation have asked Mr. Percy Howard, architect, to prepare a revised scheme for the proposed public baths to meet requirements of the Ministry of Health for the substitution of concrete for brickwork as far as possible.—A further 50 houses are to be subsidised.—Approval has been given

to the layout plan prepared by the surveyor showing development of the site at Pilling Lane for the erection of 76 houses.—The Rev. Canon Crank is in negotiation with the Board of Education regarding the provision of a central school for Roman Catholic children, the improvement of St. Mary's schools and the extension of St. Joseph's School.—Plans passed: 16 houses, Pilling Lane, for Messrs. J. Fairclough & Sons.

COULSDON.—A layout plan submitted by Messrs. R. Costain & Sons for 208 houses and 12 shops on the Selsdon Garden Village estate is to be considered when the question of drainage has been discussed with the Croydon Corporation.—Four hundred fresh housing subsidies are to be granted.—A committee have been asked to report as to the provision of new office accommodation for the Council.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Woodcote Valley Road, Purley, for Mr. A. T. Bate; 12 houses, Norman Avenue, Sanderstead, for Mr. L. White.

GLASGOW.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of an operating theatre at Robroyston Hospital.—Mr. A. E. Pickard has a scheme for buildings at 108-116 Saltmarket and 5-21 and 6-24 Miller's Place and involving the closure of Miller's Place.

GLASGOW Corporation Health Committee recommend the tender of Messrs. Robert Rogerson of £85,526 14s. 7d. for excavator and brick work and £22,211 8s. for carpenter and joiner works in connection with the new buildings at the Mearnskirk sanatorium.

CONTENTS.

Elements of Form and Design in Architecture	PAGE 19	The Sculpture in the Library at Christ Church	PAGE 25
A Note Upon Architecture in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Durham	21	Correspondence	28
The Zanelli Sculpture on the Victor Emanuel Monument at Rome	23	The Skeletons of Bayham and Beaulieu	29
		General News	31

Elements of Form and Design in Classic Architecture.*

The object of this book is to show the application of certain geometrical forms in Classic and Renaissance Architecture. It is primarily a book for students, but inasmuch as every practising architect remains a student all his life if he is to do the best work he is capable of producing, the book will serve as a very useful reminder. The conception of design as an inspiration is rather misleading, for although imagination is requisite, memory is equally essential, and an analysis of the highest so-called imaginative efforts frequently reveal the designer's power of memorizing and reproducing effects which he has noticed in other buildings. In a word, while the whole gamut of the combinations effected may produce what is apparently new, every one of them is to be traced back to a former building or source. The value of memory is that it enables us to dispense with what we have noticed as not wholly satisfactory and to substitute for it what we are certain will be.

The book deals with Circular Plans, Circular and Rectangular Forms united, Square Plans, The Roman Dor Tribune Plan, Octagonal Plans, Rectangular Plans disposed for Internal Effect, Internal Corridors, Vestibules, Vaulted Loggias and Covered Approaches, Internal Staircases, Pavilions, Loggias and Open Halls, Fascades not more than two Principal Storeys in Height, Porticoes as Frontispieces and Approaches, External Steps and Staircases, Triumphal Arches, Gateways and Porches, Screens and Colonnades and Grottoes, and is illustrated by 100 clearly drawn line diagrams and plans. The text is carefully and concisely written, and, as we should expect, Mr. Stratton has made ample use of a fund of knowledge which is unusually thorough in its scope. Neither books nor knowledge alone will make a great designer, but no great designer has ever existed who has not been a painstaking student of the productions of the past. Many architects would be surprised to find how much their labours were lightened if they acquired more knowledge, for design usually depends more on the power of selection from the storehouse of memory than from what is called originality.

At the present time there is doubtless a desire felt by many to strike out some new line, but when the outcome of such work, of which the most modern examples are to be found in Sweden and Holland, are analysed, it is surprising to find how little real originality has been evidenced. One of the most noted and best examples is undoubtedly the Town Hall at Stockholm, but we shall find that it recalls certain Venetian buildings very directly, and where it is "new" in type it is unquestionably also a little crude. We are led to wonder whether this work would not have been finer than it is if the architect had given closer study to what were unquestionably his prototypes in design.

It will be said that the Kingsway front of Bush House "strikes a new note" in the detailing, both of the great arched recess and the capitals of the columns, but we have no hesitation in saying that were the latter replaced by good Corinthian capitals and the very curious coffering of the dome by the conventional

square panelled coffering of the Renaissance the effect would be greatly improved. Sir William Chambers produced nothing "new" in Somerset House, yet it not only pleased a past generation but gives us continual satisfaction, while the best of the "freer" classical compositions of the end of last century now appear to us like a past fashion which has had a temporary vogue. We should not describe the design of Adelaide House as being new in any sense, for all that is involved in its design is the acceptance of the practical requirements as they exist, combined with the smallest expenditure on added accessories. Many of the Roman buildings were in the same sense new as being the outcome of an age's frank acceptance of conditions as they were then. What is most evident in the new school of design, both in Sweden and Holland, is the acceptance of forms of openings and masses which suit practical requirements as they are, without an attempt to refine them or render them more pleasing. This, coupled with the avoidance of mouldings—in an age when mechanical means exist of producing them which were unknown to our forefathers—seems almost the sum total of the new inspiration.

The rock on which most attempts to produce "new" forms in design are wrecked is the natural and instructive objection to accept pure utilitarianism in design. We are not pleased with the appearance of stark, bare walls, punctuated by door and window openings above, and in our smaller buildings there is little scope for the arrangement of different masses in pleasing rhythm. For these reasons a certain amount of moulding or ornament becomes necessary and this being granted, it is difficult to devise forms which, in the curt phrase of the day, are more "logical" than those of our forefathers. In proportion to the degree to which our accessories are purely unnecessary or ornamental, originality in their design becomes difficult. Centuries passed before, the orders of architecture reached their final forms, and it would appear likely that centuries might elapse before the wit of man devised anything with which they could be replaced, and if that finally did happen it might still be open to question whether, in exchanging old lamps for new, we had been the gainers.

It is because of the insanity of what we may term the futurist movement in architecture that we are glad to see another book dealing with the manipulation of traditional elements of classical form. There must in time be advances and changes in the character of design as there have been in the past, but as yet there is no clear evidence that we have originated anything fresh but abundant facts to show that many have courted disaster in attempting to do so, we have yet to see a building or a material which cannot perfectly well and reasonably be treated in a more or less traditional manner. The greater value put on good lighting, the more exacting nature of hygienic requirements are so many added difficulties to the designer, but in the great art of planning the foundation of all architectural design, what is most evident is the increasing extent to which the best standards of the past—such as Mr. Stratton illustrates—serve to form models for present use and guidance.

* "Elements of Form and Design in Classic Architecture," by Arthur Stratton, Architect, London. B. T. Batsford, Ltd. 28s. net.

Our Illustrations.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL. By BYRON DAWSON.

NO. 2 LONDON ROAD, CAMBERLEY. H. REGINALD POULTER, Architect.

THE WEST FRONT AND CENTRAL TOWER OF A CATHEDRAL. By E. LESLIE GUNSTON, Architect.

NEW PREMISES, MARYLEBONE ROAD, LONDON. } By Messrs. WALLIS, GILBERT & PARTNERS, Architects.
NEW OFFICES, ANTWERP. }

Notes and Comments.

The British School at Rome.

The subject set for the Rome Scholarship in Architecture for 1925 was a permanent British Pavilion of Fine and Industrial Art in an International Exhibition in a foreign capital, the site of the pavilion being a public park and on the axis of a wide boulevard. The pavilion itself will be 300 feet away from the park entrance and will be surrounded by a formal garden. The pavilion is to comprise a great hall or covered garden for sculpture, 300 feet long and 150 wide, with a glass roof. This hall is to be enclosed in a range of buildings containing spacious picture galleries on the first floor and on the ground floor accommodation for the industrial arts. The preliminary drawings to be made *en loge* were to a scale of $\frac{1}{32}$ in. to a foot, and are to show the lay-out of the whole site, including approaches. The pavilion need not be planned in detail. The final drawings consist of a lay-out as before, $\frac{1}{16}$ in. drawings of the Pavilion and a $\frac{1}{2}$ in. detail. On the recommendation of the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome the Commissioners have awarded the Scholarship to Mr. G. A. Batling, a student of the Liverpool School, and the Henry Jarvis Studentship to Mr. C. A. Minopric, also of the Liverpool School. The Rome Scholarship would almost seem to be a possession of the Liverpool School!

Waterloo Bridge.

The Conference of the Societies urging the preservation of Waterloo Bridge have issued their report, which can be obtained at the R.I.B.A. on payment of 3s. 6d. The reports published are those of Mr. C. H. Bengough, who was until recently Chief Engineer of the N.E. Railway; Mr. Edward Cratwell, now senior partner of Sir John Wolfe Barry & Partners, who was the engineer employed for the widening of London Bridge; Mr. H. H. Dalrymple-Hay, who has had wide experience in railway construction and bridge and foundation work; Dr. Oscar Faber, O.B.E., who is acting as Consulting Engineer for the rebuilding of the Bank of England; Mr. Nicholas G. Gedge, formerly Chief Engineer to the Tyne Improvement Commission, who reported on the foundations of the High Level Bridge at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as a result of which the foundations were underpinned; and Mr. J. Mitchell Moncrieff, who has had wide experience in connection with bridges, docks, harbours, and riverside improvement. Of these reports Mr. Bengough is of opinion that the foundations of the bridge, with the possible exception of those of Pier No. 4, can be underpinned, an opinion which is endorsed by Mr. Dalrymple Hay, Mr. Gedge, Mr. Cratwell, and Dr. Faber, while Mr. Mitchell Moncrieff alone is of opinion that entire rebuilding is necessary.

In view of the very strong volume of competent opinion to the effect that the existing bridge can be preserved, and the fact that present traffic requirements are met by the temporary bridge, it is to be hoped that the London County Council will delay taking any decisive steps to replace the present bridge by a new one.

Apartment Housing in the United States.

Mr. W. T. Benslyn, the Godwin Bursar for 1923, has written a good paper on Apartment Housing in the United States, the first part of which is given in the R.I.B.A. Journal of June 27.

Apartment houses or, as we call them here, flats, have been the object of intensive study in the United States, and American architects have gone into both questions of finance and construction with very great thoroughness. In America it is now recognised that the first cost of a site

is not the most important factor, for when large buildings are in question the greatly added cost of the walling required in long and narrow sites becomes an element of the first importance. Also, it is more than probable that the world will grow less tolerant of restricted areas and more insistent of an ample supply of light and air, from which it follows that it may not be the best policy to cover the last possible foot of a site or to unduly increase the height of any building.

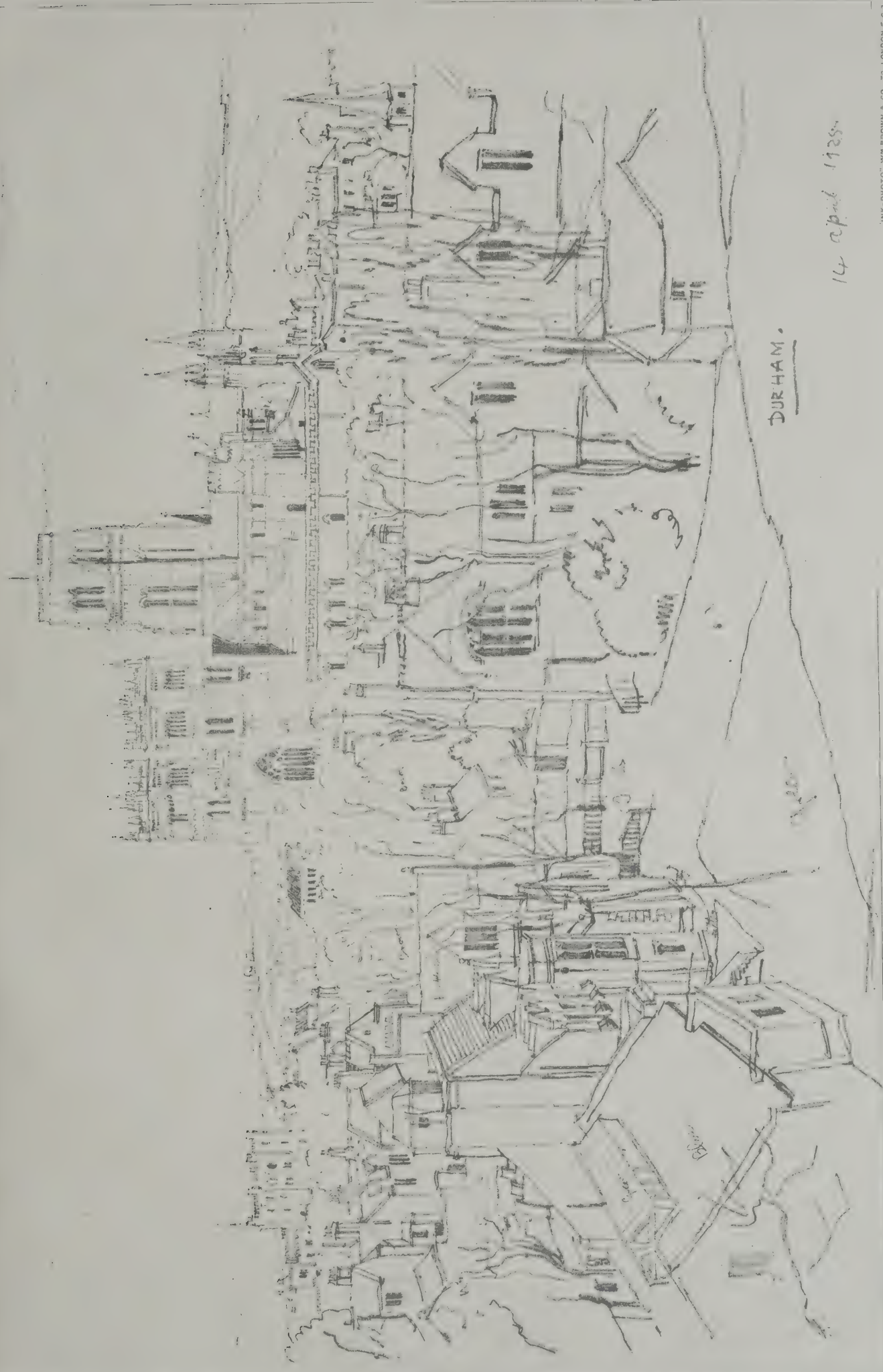
In the great block of dwellings in 277 Park Avenue, Messrs. McKim, Mead & White have left 50 per cent. of the site unbuilt upon, the open space being concentrated in one great courtyard 300 ft. long and 120 ft. wide. American regulations with regard to the placing of sanitary accommodation give their designers a freedom impossible under the London regulations, which in many cases make it necessary to introduce small ventilation areas, the disposition of which requires considerable ingenuity in a restricted site.

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association.

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association have made arrangements for a town planning tour, the itinerary of which will comprise the following circuit. On Monday, September 21, the party will leave London for Liverpool, where they will inspect the town planning work of the Corporation; on Tuesday Port Sunlight and Birkenhead will be visited; on Wednesday Manchester; mid-day on Thursday Middleton, near Leeds, will be visited, and the party will proceed to York, where on Friday New Earswick Garden Village will be visited, and after seeing the Cocoa Works the party will return to London. On Sunday and Monday, September 28, Welwyn and Letchworth will be visited. The cost of the tour will be as follows:—Whole tour, £12 10s.; Lancashire and Yorkshire section only, £9; Liverpool and Manchester alone, £4; Letchworth and Welwyn Cities, £3 10s.; and London only, £1. These prices include travelling and hotel accommodation, and communications should be made to the Secretary of the Association, 3 Gray's Inn Square, London, W.C.

The Manchester Art Gallery Competition.

The dispute pending over the recent award seems to us to point a moral and adorn a tale. We may say that as we have not studied the conditions issued we are not in a position to express an opinion on the question in dispute. The design placed first, which we recently illustrated, is certainly a fine monumental one, and as far as we know may easily be the best of any design submitted in the competition. The whole point is whether the conditions of the competition as laid down are complied with in the design, not whether it is the finest architectural conception or not. The point raised by the fact that certain competitors threaten to take legal action is this: would it not be a better solution if breaches of conditions have occurred that the machinery of competition procedure should include means for dealing with the matter rather than that a loophole should be left for legal proceedings on the part of the competitors against a public body? Public bodies might easily be made chary of holding competitions if they saw in them the possibility of legal trouble, but would be glad to have instead machinery which would throw on the architectural profession the task of righting a mistake. From the point of view of the Institute itself, it is also desirable that they should keep the whole conduct of competitions in their own hand, leaving no loopholes for reference to a Court of law. In the one case they would be final arbiters and in the other subject to another and higher authority.



DURHAM.

14 April 1925

DRAWN BY BYRON DAWSON.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL.

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DURHAM.

14th April, 1928.

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A Note Upon Architecture in Newcastle-on-Tyne and Durham.

By **Kenneth Glover, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.Struct.E.,**

PRESIDENT, THE NEWCASTLE GROUP.

With Illustrations by **BYRON DAWSON**, Member of the Newcastle Group.



THE BLACK GATE.

THE BLACK GATE.

The forthcoming visit of the Royal Institute of British Architects' Conference to Newcastle-on-Tyne and Durham provides a fitting opportunity to consider the architectural character of these cities.

Newcastle-on-Tyne has grown during the course of centuries from a fortified village into a great industrial centre, and it therefore presents a pleasant mingling and contrasting of mediæval and modern architecture. It has the advantage of being built on hilly ground and on the banks of a noble river. The traveller coming from the South leaves the gloom of Gateshead Station and looks out upon a scene of great impressiveness and beauty. At night, a myriad lights sparkle and reflect in the dark water of the river, spanned by George Stephenson's magnificent high level bridge; on the northern side the outlines of the Cathedral and All Saints' spires take the eye, and the pile of the Castle bulks large and grim in its strange surrounding tangle of railway lines.

The Castle, the Black Gate, the Jesus Hospital, the Keelmen's Hospital, the Trinity Chapel, the Friars—all romantic names! These are the chief of the ancient glories.

"Black Gate" reminds us that Newcastle was once a fortified town with immense walls encircling it, such walls as drew astonished comment from the accustomed eye of Leland. The town was of course a place of military value when Scotland and England were at variance, but the Black Gate, although it does not belie its name as to colour, yet has no glowering aspect. It is, indeed, more like some castle of Fairyland or such as one would see in Carcassonne. It is a beautifully grouped, towered and steep-roofed mass with a beautiful outline, and its charm is enhanced by the precipitous nature of the ground from which it springs.

Newcastle Cathedral is a parish church with a rare form of spire which is, incidentally, too large altogether for the church; it has much beauty of line in its flying buttresses and its lantern. It does not look an uncomfortably-poised

affair, as might have been the case, so carefully are the proportions of the parts adjusted.

In considering the growth and changing character of most cities no abrupt transformations are to be looked for; changes, however great and sweeping they may appear to have been, were generally the result of the gradual pressure of growing cities within the narrow space of encircling mediæval walls.

Economic factors, growth of population, greater security of living, increase of desire for amenities—these were the formative influences at work.

About the year 1800 there began in Newcastle the growth of a consciousness of the inadequacy of the old town to house the rapidly growing activities of its citizens.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century were born John Dobson and Richard Grainger, and these two men, the former as an architect and the latter as a builder, were destined to be the chief begetters of the new Newcastle.

Richard Grainger, the builder, has always been popularly credited with the conception and design of this work, while John Dobson, the retiring artist, is rarely mentioned. One is glad to say that during the last few years Dobson has obtained greater recognition for the part which he took in the planning of the new streets and the design of the buildings which adorn them.

There can be no question that, without Grainger's push and enterprise, nothing so bold and extensive would have been done; but there can also be no question that, without John Dobson's artistic genius and large grasp of essentials, the result would have presented nothing approaching that which we see to-day.

About 1834 the great scheme was begun; magnificent new streets were carved out or made up, and by 1840 nearly the whole of the improvements were completed.

The principal new streets were Grey Street, Grainger Street, Blckett Street, Neville Street, and, of course, shorter streets connecting these.

Some of the buildings were designed by John and Benjamin Green, and some by Messrs. Walker and Wardle, two architects employed in Grainger's office.

Noteworthy buildings of this period are the Royal Arcade, the Central Railway Station, the Central Exchange Buildings, the Academy of Arts, the Theatre Royal, the Lesmond Cemetery Gateway, and the Bank of England.

The result of the activities of the years between 1834 and 1840 was to give the central part of the city an appearance of architectural dignity and unity such as is possessed by few of the industrial cities of Europe; but if these new streets and buildings created that unity in the centre, there was still remaining a very considerable residuum of the ancient and picturesque.

After 1855 the architecture produced in the city was affected by the decline which came upon the art in England; but many of the buildings, whose detail cannot withstand the analysis of the architectural critic, are nevertheless quite beautiful pictorially. This is a point which is often lost sight of; the architect passing through a city is apt to keep a watchful eye on detail, forgetting the general in the concentration on the particular.

Like Newcastle, Durham rises upon the banks of a river; but here is no shipping, none of the clanging activity of a great port. Durham is ecclesiastical, educational, and it is also the centre of a great mining area. So we have the Cathedral, the University, and the big new block of offices of the Durham Miners' Association.

There is no need to describe, in an architect's paper, the glories of Durham Cathedral; its interior, full of rich glooms, and its triple-crowned exterior—once seen, these things are not forgotten. Like several ancient buildings at the present time, Durham Castle is in danger, owing to



THEATRE ROYAL.

some failure of the foundations on the precipitous banks of the Wear.

Durham has always, quite naturally, held a fascination for the artist, and among other famous artists who have done drawings of it are Girtin and Cotman.

Of modern work in Newcastle-on-Tyne, noteworthy are the buildings of the Armstrong College. The first portion was erected, somewhere about fifty years ago, to the designs of the late Mr. Johnson; the tower and north block were designed by Mr. Knowles. More recently, Messrs. Knowles, Oliver & Leeson and Messrs. Cackett & Burns Dick have been responsible for the design of several buildings, the latter firm being the architects for the large Union building now being completed.

Mr. Dunbar Smith is the architect for the new Library, he having won this in a limited competition last year. Among other notable modern work in the city are the Alliance Buildings (Messrs. Marshall & Tweedy, architects), the Conservative Club (Messrs. Cackett & Dick, architects), the Tyne Commissioners' offices (the late Mr. Johnson, architect), new Auction Galleries for Messrs. Intract (Mr. Marcus K. Glass, architect), Lloyd's Bank, Collingwood Street (the late Mr. Johnson, architect), St. Aidan's Church (the late Mr. W. S. Hicks, architect), the Prudential Assurance Buildings (the late Alfred Waterhouse, R.A., architect), Bolbec Hall (Mr. F. W. Rich, architect), Orthopaedic Hospital (Messrs. Newcombe & Newcombe, architects). The contract has recently been placed with Mr. Stanley Miller for the erection of new Baths and Concert Hall, to the designs of Messrs. Nicholas and Dixon Spain, who won this work in open competition last year.

Newcastle possesses three principal War Memorials; the City War Memorial, Eldon Square; the 6th Northumberland Fusiliers' Memorial, Barras Bridge; and the Memorial commemorating the Response to the Call, 1914, Barras Bridge. The City War Memorial is by Mr. Charles Hartwell, A.R.A., and represents a mounted St. George slaying the dragon; it is a bronze group on a stone pedestal. The 6th Northumberland Fusiliers' Memorial is another representation of the same subject, but it is smaller, and shows the Saint unmounted, and sheathing his sword after having killed the dragon. This Memorial is by Mr. Reid, a Newcastle sculptor.

The group commemorating The Response 1914 was given to the city by Sir George Renwick, and is by Sir Goscombe John, R.A. It is somewhat on the lines of St. Gaudens' General Sherman Memorial, and shows a large group of soldiers, some in khaki and some in "civvies," with their wives, children and sweethearts. It is no doubt calculated to appeal to the popular imagination, but there are too many figures crowded on to the narrow plinth, and the posing and modelling of the figures lack the verve and fire of genius.

The best of the three memorials is undoubtedly the City Memorial by Mr. Hartwell; the group is well conceived and proportioned, while the action is sufficiently vigorous and the modelling firmly handled and "alive."

As in London, so in Newcastle, old landmarks are being swept away to provide for the requirements of the modern city. About eighteen months ago a Civic Society, similar to that at Birmingham, was founded; but, unlike the Birmingham Society, it does not appear to possess any powers as regards civic design, and its activities are seldom heard of by the public.

Fortunately, electric signs do not sprawl all over the façades of the streets as yet, but the magnificent Central Station is disfigured by a ridiculous electric baby drinking electric milk from an electric bottle.

This is a scandal, and only too clearly shows that anything may happen, as the Corporation have no powers at present to control electric signs on buildings. That they are sufficiently interested or profoundly moved to get those powers, no one imagines for one moment.

Too many shopkeepers appear to be obsessed with the antique idea that painted advertisements on their buildings bring enormous increase of business, and one is glad to render grateful thanks to those who, like Messrs. Fenwicks, realise that these signs do not pay. It is of no avail to put your name up in six foot letters if the man next door does the same.

As to the present-day architectural production, it is better than most of the London work, and there is a praiseworthy tendency to eliminate swags, blocks and the rest of the useless trimmings which were so fashionable a few years ago.



CORNER OF CLAYTON STREET.

Two views of Durham Cathedral by BRYON DAWSON are given in the inset plates.

The Zanelli Sculpture on the Victor Emanuel Monument at Rome

By Kineton Parkes.



It is nearly half a century since the death of King Victor Emanuel II, the consolidation of United Italy, and during this period his memorial in Rome has been gradually taking shape. The idea was mooted very soon after the king's death, and now at long last it is practically complete.

Rome has monuments of ancient times and of the Middle Ages, all on the grand scale, and this new memorial of the present is on the grand scale, too. Its construction on the Capitoline Hill has never lacked difficulties, and its completion lacks an entirely satisfactory artistic close.

It is heterogeneous in its details ; some are bad, some are good ; but its general design is undoubtedly impressive. It is the conception of Giuseppe Sacconi, the architect who won the competition in 1884, but who died, long before its finish, in 1905. The central equestrian figure was always a bone of contention. It was by Chiardi, and was nationalistically treated, and consequently hated by Sacconi, who had quite other ideas for the sculpture treatment to be employed.

Sacconi's original scheme was to make emblematical figures of the principal cities of Italy coming to pay homage to the greatness of Rome. The idea of the Commission was to have represented great historical scenes such as the breach of Porta Pia and the Plebiscite of Rome, but this Sacconi discarded from the start as too pictorial for sculpture. In order to keep out Chiardi's horse from the sacred shrine, the architect, after taking counsel with the artists and the Government representatives, decided to modify the whole scheme. He developed the idea of an altar to the Motherland, in which would appear Augustus, Christopher Columbus, Cavour and other great men who had contributed to the ultimate triumph of Italy. He was besieged with lists of names of heroes and with sketches for the work, and the whole matter, in order to please everyone, was resolved into a combination of history, national altar and free allegory. A new competition was instituted, and twenty artists competed, and the prize for the shrine was won by Angelo Zanelli. Since then more important and more tragic events have happened to Italy, and the national altar has assumed the essential characteristics required in a great symbolic war memorial.

The other day the anniversary of the foundation of Rome was celebrated by the unveiling of the statue of *Dea Roma*, which replaces the plaster figure that was its forerunner, thus completing Zanelli's work for the memorial in permanent form ; a great statue in one piece, five and a half metres in height.

The huge monument which dominates the Corso and the districts around is not excelled in conspicuousness by any other in Rome. It rises from the ground level by many steps flanked by pillars and balustrades bearing sculp-

tural work. On either side are fountains with figure sculpture behind which the architectural work begins to rise in the walls which contain the first platform on which the massive and imposing altar rears itself. The great frieze of the base is Zanelli's work ; above it is the socle with sculpture by Maccagnani supporting the equestrian statue.

Of all the sculpture, however, none is so fine and none so structural as Zanelli's. It was the one undisguised blessing of all the competitions. It is self-contained, completely suitable for its purpose, splendidly designed and executed, and has the essential qualities of true relief work. The centrepiece is the statue of Rome, emblematical of the city ; the goddess of the national altar and the guardian of the tomb of the Unknown Warrior. A stately statue, ornamental and classical. Even more classical in feeling, though somewhat less ornamental, is the frieze "The Triumph of Labour," which begins on either side of the *Dea Roma*, and passes in broken architectural shape to the rear of the monument base. As a piece of sustained sculptural decoration it is unrivalled in modern times. It is based on the principles of the Parthenon Frieze, but is informed with the modern spirit of decoration and with the Italian style of ornament, which tends to prettiness, even in the finest modern Italian plastic work. Here, however, there is enough strength to carry it. The subject is a symbolical triumphant procession of men and women, horses and chariots, of small children and great oxen ; of emblems and winged females, and others with trumpets, in a rich ordered riot of graceful form. Its prolongation around the base is entirely successful, the dangers of pictorialism having been avoided by the sculptor's strict sense of true plastic form and application. As a high relief its technique is perfect, despite the recurring difficulties of the architectural scheme and those offered by the crowded scene itself. The consummate craft of this relief work is seen in the raising of the high figures in front away from, and yet outlined upon, the background of figure low-relief. Not only is the design of this important work the best of its kind, but the spirit of the artist as expressed in it is serene and joyous, projecting, too, a love of pure beauty.



The Sculpture in the Library at Christ Church.

By Mrs. Arundell Esdaile.

In view of the recent Tercentenary celebrations, some account of the sculpture there may be welcome and timely.

In the stately hall of the great Library, Chantrey's fine statue of Cyril Jackson, gowned and holding his college cap upon his knee, presides from his armchair over a collection of English portrait sculpture rivalled in an English University only by that at Trinity College, Cambridge; and if the palm must be given to Trinity, the Oxford series may claim that it began earlier and represents a greater number of eighteenth-century sculptors, as well as illustrating more fully the tendencies of English sculpture during the century or so in question.

To the right of the entrance stands Chantrey's herm-like bust of Francis Burton, with its touch of neo-Hellenism; next it is the younger Bacon's bust of Archbishop Robinson, whose stately presence is familiar in Sir Joshua's portrait, a good work in the purest English manner, spoilt a little by the pasteboard texture of the hands, though wig and countenance are as reverend and as well rendered as in any work of the time. Beyond is the delightful bust of Dr. Freind, the famous head of Westminster School, whose recreation lay in writing epitaphs; this is the work of Rysbrack, and shows Freind wearing his own hair; it is signed and dated 1738, and is one of the sculptor's best works of the class. His neighbour, Archbishop Boulter, with long hair curling on his shoulders, its texture most effectively enhanced by the absence of the polish which distinguishes the rest of the bust, resembles so strongly the bust of the same prelate by Sir Henry Cheeve in Westminster Abbey that it is probably also from his hand. Cheeve was the author of the excellent medallion of Dean Aldrich in the Cathedral close at hand; but the bust of that great man here, behind the statue of Jackson, suggests a copy from the portrait in the Chapter House by some unknown sculptor of an earlier date.

Yet it is well for Cheeve and Rysbrack, good as they are, that the vestibule narrows at this point, for beyond the arch which divides it from the inner hall stands a masterpiece of Roubiliac, the bust of Dr. Richard Frewen to whom, as *Aedis Christi alumno et patrono Jacobus Hawley M.D. Amicitiae ergo P[osuit]*. L. F. Roubiliac sc. ad vivum, MDCCLVII, adds the signature; and if ever a bust lived this does. The mouth drawn to one side, the ugly, powerful face, the aged, wrinkled neck are almost ferocious in their realism, and in spite of some recent damage to the surface, Roubiliac's work remains the masterpiece of the collection. There is another version in the Camera.

Next it stand busts of George III and IV, by John Bacon, R.A., and Chantrey, the first a dignified portrait in Garter robes, signed and dated 1774, the second one of many replicas of that curl-laden head, with loose classical drapery about the shoulders. Flanking a door beyond are Rysbrack's George I and II, both in armour and with the insignia of the Garter, the first a posthumous portrait, signed but not dated, the second a replica of the fine bust at Windsor Castle.

There is no bust opposite those of Frewen, and the later Georges, for the ascending staircase occupies the space; but within the arch which terminates the vestibule stands Bacon's bust of General Guise, donor of the Picture Gallery into which we enter by the bust of Freind. Why the Guise should be so poor, why Bacon elected to execute it in the outworn Roman manner, it is hard to say; it was disfigured at the time when Frewen suffered, but it can never have been anything but a stiff and curiously linear work, unworthy of the sculptor of the George III or of the neighbouring bust of Bishop Trevor, a fine and dignified study of a great ecclesiastic and benefactor of the House. Rysbrack's Busby is a delightful exercise in Rysbrack's historical manner; the younger Bacon's bust of Dr. Markham, Archbishop of York, one of that sculptor's finest works, is almost a great portrait of a great man; Chantrey's bust of Lewis Bagot, a competent work but uninspired, concludes the list.

In a niche on the great staircase above stands Rysbrack's colossal statue of John Locke, holding a book on his right knee, a gesture which enhances the odd resemblance of the figure to a Berninesque Evangelist. This singular and striking work, the terra-cotta model for which is in the Victoria and Albert Museum, shows Rysbrack, late in his career, falling under the influence of his junior, Roubiliac, and differs entirely from such earlier productions of his chisel as the tomb of Newton in Westminster Abbey, in which Rysbrack is dominated by the classical tradition, or such sober and dignified commemorative statues as those of Dr. Radcliffe at the Camera or Sir Hans Sloane in the Chelsea Physic Garden, which are admirable examples of the official sculpture of the age.

Here then is an epitome of English portrait sculpture from 1730 or earlier to 1830. The Romanising manner of Rysbrack is shown in his Royal busts; his historic manner, in which an earlier type is faithfully reproduced, in the Busby; his imaginative manner, when a genius above his own has fired him with emulation of the greatness of the *Seicento*, in the Locke. Here is the less brilliant but still competent chisel of Cheeve; here Roubiliac at his greatest, making a work in the grandest Tuscan manner of a subject ugly beyond the wont of men; here John Bacon, R.A., both as realistic sculptor and as exponent of the outworn Romanising tradition; here the portrait busts of his less accomplished son, in which the great tradition is still visible; here Chantrey at his best in the Cyril Jackson, at his more familiar and commonplace level in his dons, with a touch of the neo-Hellenist in one of them, at his worst in his lamentable George IV.

The portraits of George III and Archbishop Markham have a singular interest for the student. In 1771 John Bacon, senior, then but thirty, exhibited a statue of Mars which excited great interest among the connoisseurs, Dr. Markham—then Dean of Christ Church—included. He enquired after the sculptor, visited his basement studio in a court off Warden Street, and asked "whether he made busts, and would like to model one of his Majesty for Oxford." "I make busts, and would willingly make one of his Majesty if he would condescend to sit," was the modest reply. "I shall manage that for you," was Markham's answer. This bust, which was several times repeated, was the consequence, and Bacon was a made man. Sad to say, when the College desired a bust of Markham himself, Bacon was dead; but the commission was given to his son, a sculptor whose later years belied the promise of his youth, and the collocation of the two at Christ Church is not a little interesting.

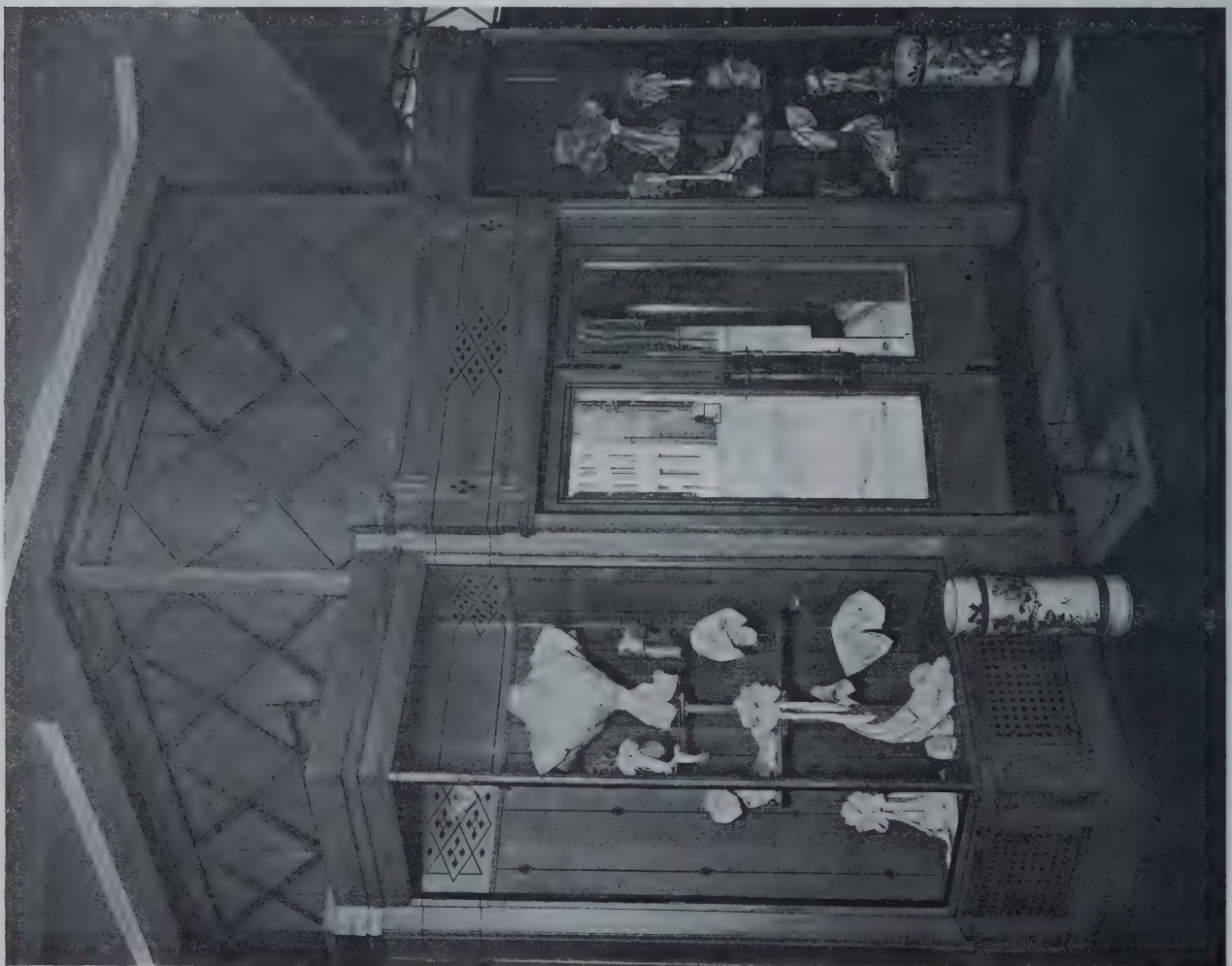
Let us in conclusion glance at the inscriptions on the Four Georges, and note how the expression of enthusiasm lessens as time goes on. That of George I is adulatory: *Serenissimo regi Georgio I*, we read, *Literarum et Huiusce Aedis Fautori munifico*. We remember "The King to Oxford sent a troop of horse," and marvel inwardly. George II has a more modest label. *Regi optimo Georgio II*, David Gregory S.T.P. Decanus Patrono suo L.M.P.: the King has become the patron of a man, not of an institution. *Regi optimo Georgio III* is the tribute on the bust of George III, Markham's own share in the matter being wholly ignored: *George IV*—that is all which Chantrey's bust gets, and deserves, and though this is not the original and much loftier pedestal, one may argue from the analogy of other replicas that nothing more was said.

OXFORD.—The White House site is being recommended for the erection of a new municipal secondary school for boys.—Plans passed: addition to school, Holy Trinity Convent, Winchester Road, for Mother Superior; additions to Messrs. Upton, Hill & Co.'s premises, George Street, for Mr. J. R. Wilkins; additions to Club, Crown Street, for East Oxford Liberal Club buildings, Woodstock Road, for Oslerton Radiators, Ltd.

WEMBLEY.—A site in East Lane is being acquired by the Middlesex Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school.



STAIRCASE FROM THE GROUND FLOOR.
MESSRS. P. WESTWOOD & EMBERTON, Architects.



MAIN ENTRANCE.
MESSRS. AUSTEN REED'S NEW PREMISES, LIVERPOOL.



TYPICAL INTERIOR VIEW.



NEW PREMISES FOR MESSRS. AUSTEN REED, LIVERPOOL. MESSRS. P. WESTWOOD & EMBERTON, Architects.

Correspondence.

Re Proposed Tudor Street, Kingston-upon-Hull.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the outline scheme of the Lord Mayor for the new street from the station to Beverley Road, printed in the "Hull Evening News" of Monday, June 22, 1925. I have examined the reproduction of an illustration by C. W. English of the scheme in the "Eastern Morning News" for June 24, 1925. With various slight mis-statements in the report and the obvious disagreement between the verbal report (June 22) and the illustration (June 23) I do not propose to deal. The scheme is, in my opinion, a desirable one in that it seeks to obtain coherence and uniformity in a new street and the Lord Mayor should be congratulated upon his foresight. Unfortunately it is in these very necessary elements of architectural excellence (coherence and uniformity) vitiated by that portion of Clause (1) reading "and the architecture shall be of Tudor style."

I desire to protest against this section of the report for the following reasons.

(1) The Lord Mayor invites discussion.

(2) The Lord Mayor is not wedded to any particular style. (Other people may be.)

(3) Historical. "Tudor architecture is the style prevalent during the reigns of Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, and Mary, in which the influence of the Renaissance movement is noticeable, for it is the work of those trained in Gothic art, but probably under the direction of a designer familiar with the new features of the Renaissance, and in some examples the designs for details and mouldings would seem to have been made by a foreign artist." (Prof. Sir Banister Fletcher, "A History of Architecture," p. 356.)

Parker in his "Introduction to Gothic Architecture" says, "Indeed at that time we find *Italian* features introduced though sparingly, among the true Gothic."

I will not burden your columns with further neutral evidence to suggest that the Tudor style represents a period of confused thought.

The Tudor manifests the interference with artists by ignorant patrons of anything but art. It represents a germ in the body of healthy art; it is foreign.

The way they wrote in those days was like this:—"Edward VI tercio. Johis Henrison maioris . . . fforasmoehe as m walter jopson nowe alderman of this towne & late shereff of the same dydde nott in the tyme of his sherwike accordyng to the Kynge maiesties charter & dyvers, etc."

This specimen is taken from Bench Book No. 3, at our own Guildhall, Kingston-upon-Hull. Their architecture resembled their writing.

(4) Local tradition. Hull is a brick town, now a city, and has been throughout its history. It is on a bed of brick clay. If in any doubt go and inspect the Church of Holy Trinity, the old Grammar School, or the remains of the Watch Tower in the East Park. Examine the old maps, or more reliably peruse the Bench Books or the accounts of the Brickfields since 1303, which are yet available. Further, the old Guildhall in Trinity churchyard was entirely (save for the stone windows) of brick. The contract can be read by persons sufficiently interested.

Despite the introduction of stone work recently, the tradition continued as long as tradition lasted. Most of the Trinity House Estate in Whitefriargate is evidence of this. I am aware that the "White Hart" and the demolished "King's Head," with some slight further remains in High Street, may be quoted as instances of timber construction. The Lord Mayor is welcome to all the wood he can find.

(5) Practical. The period is full of incongruities. If reproduced with any fidelity (and if not fidelity why pretend?) it will be found to be inconvenient, dangerous and costly. Moreover, because of the state of mental and civil confusion in which it was born a bastard, nothing about it is rational. Everything was in a state of flux from the windows, the doors, up to the chimney stacks.

(6) Theoretical. That if the initiators of the suggestion of a Tudor revival will take the trouble to read any of the books on architecture, so liberally provided by the Hull Corporation at the Central Free Library, Albion Street (but so seldom read), they are welcome to all the quotations they can find in favour of their proposal.

The writing of Mr. Trystan Edwards ("Good and Bad Manners in Architecture," "Things Which Are Seen"), Mr. Manning Robertson ("Everyday Architecture"), Mr. Clough Williams Ellis ("The Pleasures of Architecture"), Mr. Charles Marriott ("Modern Architecture"), Professor C. H. Reilly ("Some Architectural Problems of To-day," "Some Manchester Streets

and Their Buildings"), Geoffrey Scott ("The Architecture of Humanism"), Professor Lethaby ("Form in Civilisation"), Mr. Frank Rutter ("The Poetry of Architecture"), are books by gentlemen who have devoted their time and pen to the subject during the last few years. They one and all protest against the absurd fallacy that art is imitation contained in the proposal.

If the professional advisers of the Lord Mayor can produce a single authority who has written in the last twenty years in support of their Tudor revival, I should like to have his address and I promise them I will read his book.

(7) Psychological. Its realisation is impossible. The mind of man is differently oriented in these days. Never in all history has a suggestion of the character of the Lord Mayor, "the revival of a long obsolete manner," been executed. From Pericles to the Prince Regent.

(8) Personal. The function of an architect is as a practical artist. I consider it is an injury to attempt to force me to work in a manner so long dead.

I have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Lord Mayor, the local Press, and, with the report and illustration, to the architectural and building papers throughout the country.—Yours, etc.,

D. H.

A Correction.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Further to our letter of the 15th ult., in which we refer to your issue of THE ARCHITECT, dated June 12, and to the review contained therein of Littleton Pumping Station on page 420. We are sorry to note that you have not yet corrected the information concerning the roof covering.

Your issue of above states that the roof is covered with Westmoreland slates, this, however, is not correct, as the roofs of Littleton Pumping Station are covered with *Old Delatole Green Randoms* laid in diminishing courses.—Yours faithfully,

SETCHELL & SONS, LTD.

Manchester Art Gallery Competition.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—The following letter has been sent to the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Manchester:—

"DEAR SIR,—I beg to draw your attention to Section 10, sub-section E, of the competition conditions:—

A design shall be excluded from the competition if any of the conditions or instructions other than those of a suggestive character are disregarded.

Also to Section 13:—

The submission of a design shall be held to imply complete acceptance of these conditions and instructions.

"As a result of the clumsy conditions over 100 architects have wasted their time and labour; a suitable design could have been produced only by driving a coach and four through them. It is clearly evident from the above, that the City Council must disown the assessors' award; failing that legal proceedings may be taken to test the meaning of Sections 10 and 13.

"I respectfully submit that the only course open to the City Council is to organise another competition with assessors appointed by the R.I.B.A., limited to the recent competitors, with fresh instructions. As the site will not be available for several years there is unlimited time. There should be at least six clear months after the answers to questions have been sent out, as architects have other work to attend to. To save trouble the elevations could be to a scale of 12 ft. to the inch and the large scale detail might be omitted. An important point is whether the Art Gallery should be asked to the buildings facing Piccadilly, Portland and Parker Streets.

"June 13, I sent an inquiry to the curator; neither he nor you have replied to it. That is, in effect, an admission that the proceedings have been irregular and improper.

"As the City Council may organise a competition for the Reference Library, it is most important in the interests of both the Corporation and competitors to have it authoritatively stated whether conditions are to be adhered to or ignored. Every architect will agree that the design placed first is a good one, but that does not vitiate what has been stated above. It ought to be the first duty of assessors to see that the conditions drawn up by themselves after consultation with the curator have been complied with and to limit the final choice to those designs which have complied with them."—Yours, etc.,

THEODORE SINGTON.

The Skeletons of Bayham and Beaulieu

By H. A. J. Lamb, A.R.I.B.A.



BAYHAM ABBEY, SUSSEX: CLOISTER ARCADE LEADING INTO CHAPTER HOUSE.

Anyone contemplating the ruins of Bayham Abbey in Sussex and Beaulieu Abbey in Hampshire, and who has the imagination to conjure up the glories of the buildings that at one time existed, can lay the blame for their destruction to the order of Henry VIII. It is pitiful to behold the skeletons, which exist to-day, lying amid surroundings of wonderful beauty.

Both Bayham and Beaulieu Abbeys are connected, being invested with the same order of Monks of the Cistercian Order, who came over from France very early in the twelfth century.

Of Bayham Abbey, founded in the year 1200, and older

of both are most beautifully kept, since both attract a good deal of interest from the visitor. At Beaulieu the entire abbey has been razed to the ground level, the plan of it and some of the adjacent buildings being outlined in chalk stones. It must have been a very imposing building, measuring 336 feet from east to west and 186 feet across the transepts. The only buildings not destroyed in 1539 were the Lay Brothers' Quarters and the Refectory.

The north wall of the cloister still remains, to some height, as does also the entrance archway of the monks leading into the church in the north east corner; along part of the eastern wall remaining can still be seen recesses, probably



BAYHAM ABBEY, SUSSEX: VIEW FROM VESTRY SHOWING ENTRANCE TO CLOISTERS.

by a few years than that at Beaulieu, little remains, beyond some fragments of the central tower, a portion of the arcading to the north transept and the arched entrances leading into the cloister.

On the north wall of the remains of the chancel is a stone giving the names of the founders, together with the fact that the Canons of Brockley and Beaulieu were incorporated and placed here, and that their charters were confirmed by King John and Henry III and were dissolved by Henry VIII. Considerable trouble is expended to-day in looking after what remains in these two counties. The grounds

used for books. The beautiful arcade which led into the Chapter House is still in a good state of preservation. Fortunately, the Refectory or Dining Hall of the Monks, being spared destruction, much of great interest still remains to be seen. It is now used as the Parish Church, which thus has the unusual distinction of facing north and south. Originally entered from the cloister through a moulded doorway with marble shafts, entrance is now made from the churchyard by a doorway in the east wall. Along the east wall are six tall lancet windows, and along the west, four more. Of the three in the south wall, the centre one



BAYHAM ABBEY, SUSSEX: THE NORTH TRANSEPT.

is now blocked up by the construction of an extremely massive buttress built in 1745, when the roof showed signs of shifting and forcing the gable outwards.



BEAULIEU ABBEY, HANTS: THE REFECTORY.

The effect of these two narrow stained glass lancet windows in the south wall on each side of the altar is very striking, the blocked-in space of the centre window being recessed and filled with a painting, lit by artificial light.

The main feature of special interest is the Lector's pulpit, originally used by the Monks whose duty it was to read aloud during meals. Entrance to it is gained by a narrow staircase of eighteen uneven stone steps, constructed within the thickness of the western wall. At the head of the staircase before entering the pulpit is a tiny altar. The pulpit itself is octagonal in shape and forms a corbel, and has been restored in part at varying dates. The greater part of the leaf work decoration on the corbel is probably thirteenth century work.

The high pitched wooden ceiling divided by transverse and longitudinal ribs and carved and painted bosses of grotesque design dates possibly from the end of the fourteenth century.



BEAULIEU ABBEY, HANTS: REFECTORY NOW USED AS PARISH CHURCH.

On the wall of the church a somewhat curious epitaph in the form of an acrostic to Mary Do, who died in 1651, can still be seen.

Merciless fate (to our great grief and woe)
A prey hath here made of our dere Mall Do,
Rakte up in dust, and hid in earth and claye,
Yet live her soule, and virtues now and aye.
Death is a debt all owe, which must be paide,
O h, that she knew, and of't was not afraide.

The Lay Brothers quarters, or Domus Conversorum, which now exist are in part used as a museum, containing many fine relics in the form of documents, carvings, coffin slabs, and ornamental floor tiles. It also contains lifelike figures of monks dressed in the brown or white costume of their rank. On the first floor running the entire length of the building, is a room now used as the Parish Hall, the restoration of which was recently carried out by Lord Montagu. The massive oak tie beams and roof timbers are remarkable and form the most conspicuous feature, the fireplace and small gallery over being recent additions.

General News.

BATTERSEA.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have decided to build a workshop at the London Lodge residential school, Battersea, at a cost of £1,645.

BERMONDSEY.—The Board of Guardians are to commence the erection of new relief offices in Lower Road, the architects being Messrs. Newman & Newman, 24 Railway Approach, S.E.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Corporation propose the purchase of land adjoining the fish market with a view to future extensions. —An operating room block is to be provided at the Rubery hospital at a cost of £3,000.—The Corporation have now completed the purchase of the Coleshill Hall Estate of 180 acres and tenders are to be invited for adapting the hall to accommodate 80 patients and erecting villas to accommodate 210 patients. —The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of one million pounds for housing schemes.

BOLTON.—The Corporation are to subsidise a further 250 houses.—Plans passed: Petrol store, 107 Tonge Moor Road, for Mr. Fred Kay; extensions, Sunnyside Mills, for Messrs. Tootal, Broadhurst, Lee & Co., Ltd.; 12 houses, Kingston Avenue, for Messrs. Leigh Bros., Ltd.; additional storey, Back Mawdsley Street, for Central Conservative Club; 14 houses, Shelbourne Avenue, for Messrs. Leigh Bros.; 6 houses, Rishton Lane, for Mr. Thomas Blakley; 6 houses, Lever Edge Lane, for Mr. Ernest Howarth.

BRIGHTON.—Mr. D. Edwards, the borough engineer, has now presented his scheme for remodelling the Aquarium site, the cost being estimated at £100,000.—The Corporation have decided to subsidise a further 50 houses.—The borough engineer is to prepare plans for flats on a site in Balfour Road.—Tenders are to be invited for rebuilding premises of Messrs. J. L. Mordock & Co. in Western Street, in accordance with plans prepared by the borough engineer and estimated to cost £9,000.—Plans passed: 6 shops, Ditchling Road, for Mr. C. Hurst; 6 houses, Windlesham Road, for Mr. J. H. Paseley; alterations, Magdalen Schools, Upper North Street, for managers; flats, Ladysmith Road, for United Women's Homes Association, Ltd.—The Chichester Diocesan Training College have a scheme for extensions at the training college in Ditchling Road.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—A motor bus garage is to be erected in Horniblow Street at an estimated cost of £3,000.

CARNARVON.—The Town Council have decided to erect 36 houses on the Cae Hampton site.—The surveyor is to prepare plans for converting buildings on the new motor parking ground into a waiting room, etc.

CHELTENHAM.—The Ministry of Health have agreed to the acceptance by the corporation of the tender of Mr. W. Bellamy, £1,127 6s. 8d., for the erection of two houses in Brooklyn Road on the understanding that the contract may be extended for a total of 14 houses.

CITY OF LONDON.—Mr. Gilbert Henry Lovegrove, F.R.I.B.A., has been appointed surveyor for the City under the dangerous structures part of the London Building Act.

DUDLEY.—The Governors are to proceed with the enlargement of the Dudley Grammar School in St. James's Road.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Watson Green Road, for Messrs. A. J. Crump & Sons, Ltd.; 6 houses, Stourbridge Road, for Mr. D. Jakeman.

ELLESMERE PORT.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £3,000 for the erection of eight houses at the gas works. —Plans have now been passed for the maternity and child welfare centre to be erected in Wilkinson Street.

ESSEX.—The school building programme of the Essex Education Committee includes the provision of eight new secondary schools, enlargements and improvements at eleven secondary schools, the erection of thirteen new elementary schools, and the enlargement and improvement of 24 elementary schools.

FULHAM.—Mr. R. Q. Tasker is to erect an addition to the War Seal Foundation Buildings, Garden Row.—A new building is to be erected by Messrs. Meakin, Archer & Co., at Townmead Wharf, Carnwath Road.

GREENWICH.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have selected a site in Thornhill Road, Greenwich, for the erection of an elementary school for the Charlton district.

HACKNEY.—Plans passed: Building, rear of 22 Mare Street, for Mr. S. Ansell; additions to warehouse, 34 Englefield Road, for Messrs. J. Hamilton & Son; petrol supply station, 271 Mare Street, for Messrs. F. & H. F. Higgs.

HACKNEY.—The L.C.C. Education Committee now propose to proceed with the scheme for extension at the Hackney Institute at a cost of £62,000.

HADLEIGH.—In view of the rapidity of building developments in Hadleigh the Essex Education Committee propose extensions at the elementary school at a cost of £3,000.

HASTINGS.—The Education Committee are to carry out repairs at the education offices and schools at a cost of £2,000.—Plans have been prepared for the layout of land at Bromgrove for housing purposes, and Messrs. Braithwaite & Co. are to be asked to quote for the erection of 50 steel houses.—Plans passed: alterations, "Rising Sun," East Parade, for Mr. A. Ford, architect for Star Brewery Co.; 6 houses, Athelstan Road, for Mr. J. Hunt, architect.

HILLINGDON.—Middlesex Education Committee have arranged terms for the purchase of a site at Hillingdon for the erection of a secondary school.

ILFORD.—Mr. R. Banks-Martin has prepared plans for rebuilding the Red Cow, Ley Street.—Plans passed: 36 houses, Saxon Road, for Mr. C. J. Kemp; 48 houses, Hampton Road, for Mr. J. W. Davies; 6 houses, Wards Road, for Messrs. Bellamy & Lemon; 43 houses, Mordon Road, for Mr. R. Stroud; 197 houses in Quebec Road and Cranley Road, for Suburban Developments (London) Ltd.; sports pavilion, New North Road, for Hartonians Athletic Club; 7 houses, Carlton Drive, for Mr. C. Genever; 48 houses, St. John's Road, for Mr. F. Fortesque; 12 houses, Mayville Road, for Messrs. Milbourne & Spiers; 25 houses, Cavenham Gardens, for Mr. D. J. Barwell.

ISLINGTON.—Mr. W. S. Huxley is taking a building lease from the L.C.C. of a site at the corner of Islington Green for the erection of shop premises.

KENSINGTON.—The Borough Council have now prepared a scheme for the erection of 38 flats at a cost of about £17,000 on land in Virginia Place and tenders for the work are to be invited.

LANGDON.—Essex Education Committee have decided to enlarge the Langdon Hills elementary school at a cost of about £3,000.

LONGTON (STAFFS).—Mr. A. E. Jones has prepared a scheme for the erection of 150 subsidy houses at Lightwood, Longton.

MANCHESTER.—The Manchester Tennis and Racquets Courts, Ltd., of Blackfriars Road, are proposing to erect an additional storey for a new squash racquets court. The plans have been prepared by the late Mr. J. Harold France, architect, late of 6 Brown Street, Manchester. The contract has been let to Messrs. H. Matthews & Sons, Ltd., builders, No. 129 Stockport Road, Ardwick, Manchester.—Messrs. William & Thorpe & Sons, Ltd., contractors, Chester Road, Cornbrook, are to carry out alterations and additions to the premises of Mr. G. S. Braady at 131 and 133 Chester Road, Hulme.—Mr. H. Waterfield, builder, 15 Spaw Street, Salford, has in hand the alteration of premises at No. 838 Rochdale Road, Harpurhey, for Mr. W. E. Peirce.

MARYLEBONE.—Tentative proposals have been made for the utilisation of the site now used for the disinfecting station for the erection of a block of flats to accommodate people displaced by slum clearances.—In connection with the decision to add an extra storey to the new blocks of tenements on the Fisherton site, Messrs. Ashley & Newman, the architects, report that this will involve an additional expenditure of £7,800 and provide additional accommodation for 18 families. The Borough Council have appointed a committee to report on the possibility of constructing an open air swimming bath in Regent's Park.—The Central London Railway Co. propose to erect residential flats in Maida Vale.

MERTON.—The governors of the Nelson Hospital, Merton, have prepared a scheme for extensions, including the provision of public and private maternity wards and clinics.

MITCHAM.—Surrey Education Committee are inquiring for a site for a new infants school for the northern part of Mitcham.

OLDHAM.—In connection with the Smethurst Street improvement a committee are obtaining information as to the various possible types of dwelling suitable for rehousing the displaced tenants.—The lowest tender for the erection of a children's hospital at Westhulme is £5,378, and it is now proposed, as an alternative scheme, to erect an administrative block at Strinesdale sanatorium and adapt sanatorium buildings as a children's hospital.—The Borough Engineer is to prepare plans for a pavilion at Alexandra Park, and laying out the extension of the park and providing tennis courts.—Plans for a workshop at the central baths are to be prepared.—Tenders are to be invited for the extension of the Ashcroft Street school.—Proposals are under consideration for extending the Castleshaw School of Recovery.—Plans passed: transformer house, Mill Yard, for Central Mill Co.; 8 houses, Abbey Hills Road, for Messrs. Bloor, Ltd.; 7 houses, Fleet Street, for Messrs. Garstide & Parry; alterations Wagon & Horses Hotel, Huddersfield Road, for Oldham Brewery Co.; rebuilding White House Inn, Henshaw Street, for Mrs. M. Mills; 6 houses, Ripponden Road, for Mr. A. Gill; additions, school, Ripponden Road, for Wesleyan Trustees; 22 houses, Gordon Avenue, for Mr. J. Bewley.

OXFORD CORPORATION HOUSING COMMITTEE recommend the tender of Messrs. Eadie, Towers & Co., of Wolverhampton, for the erection of 246 houses on the Meadow Lane site for £113,631.

POPLAR.—A site in South East Row, Poplar, is to be purchased by the L.C.C. Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school for 768 children.

POPLAR.—The managers have now prepared plans for the proposed Roman Catholic School to be erected in Grundy Street, Poplar, providing accommodation for 264 children. A hall for the school is to be provided later.

PUTNEY.—The following plans have been passed by the Wandsworth B.C.: 422 houses on the Roehampton Estate of the L.C.C. for Messrs. C. J. Wills & Co., Ltd.; conversion of 3 Carlton Road, into flats for Mr. E. J. Logan; 8 houses, Sutherland Grove, Southfields, for Messrs. Belfrage, Saville & Hooper.

RICHMOND.—Terms have now been agreed by the L.C.C., the Surrey C.C. and the Wandsworth B.C. for the improvement of Upper Richmond Road at Priest's Bridge at a cost of £28,500.

ROTHERHAM.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the erection of a further 27 houses on the Corporation housing estate at Eastdene.—The borough engineer is to prepare plans for the provision of the new cattle market to be erected on a portion of the land adjoining Corporation Street and the public slaughterhouse.—A scheme has been prepared for sewage pumping plant at a cost of £10,000.—Plans passed: Reconstruction of 74 and 76 Wellgate and erection of warehouse, for Mr. D. Spearing; court house, offices, and two houses, Moorgate, for West Riding County Council.

SHEFFIELD.—Mr. F. E. P. Edwards, the city architect, has resigned after 39 years of public service, of which the last 17 have been with the Corporation.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Mildon Road, for Mr. J. N. Reed; 6 houses, Sandygate Lane, for Messrs. J. Moss, Ltd.; 20 houses, Brooklands Crescent, for Mr. R. Watson; 4 houses, Bevercotes Road, for Mr. Thomas Pye; 6 houses, Chesterfield Road, for Mr. J. H. Dyson; 4 bungalows, Lister Road, for Messrs. Hammett & Co.; 6 houses, Parkhead Crescent, for Mr. A. J. Belton; 6 houses, Dents Road, for Mr. J. H. Smith.

SHIPLEY.—Mr. F. Dalby is to erect 12 houses at Gaisby Mount.—Two new roads off Nab Wood Drive are to be constructed by Messrs. William Pitts & Sons.

SOUTHWARK.—A new telephone exchange is to be established to serve the Walworth district.—Messrs. Robinson & Roods are to erect additions to the premises of Messrs. R. Hoe & Co., Ltd., in Mansfield Street, Borough Road.

STOKE NEWINGTON.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have decided to erect a new central school on a site in Albion Road, Stoke Newington.

STREATHAM.—Additional science accommodation is to be provided by the L.C.C. Education Committee at the Streatham County Secondary School at a cost of £1,410.

STREATHAM.—The following plans have been passed by the Wandsworth B.C.: 46 houses, Donnybrook Road, 22 in Streatham Vale, 26 in Cranmore Gardens, 8 in Bencroft Road, and 4 in Abercairn Road, for Messrs. Chapple & Fulford; tennis pavilion, Kingsmead Road, for Mr. A. Watson; 18 houses, Gracefields Gardens, for Messrs. Chapple & Ulting; 14 houses, Sherwood Park Road, 18 in Kelmsdale Road, 24 in Budgewood Road, 28 in Grayscroft Road, 17 in Streatham Vale Road, and 110 in Glenister Park Road, for Messrs. Watts, Ltd.; 20 houses, Crowborough Road, for Mr. G. S. Cook.

TOOTING.—The Fountain public-house, Garrett Lane, Tooting, is to be rebuilt by Messrs. J. Garrett & Sons.

WANDSWORTH.—The Borough Council have decided to invite tenders for the erection of 14 self-contained flats at Blackshaw Road.—Tenders will shortly be invited for the erection of houses on the Furzedown housing estate and on land in Merton Road.—The Unemployment Committee have prepared various schemes involving an outlay of £372,775.—Tenders are now being invited for the reconstruction and extension of the Town Hall.—Mr. H. E. Moss is developing the Queensmere Estate at Southfields, and sewers are to be constructed in Victoria Road, Queensmere Road and Bathgate Road.—The Ministry of Transport have promised to contribute one half of the total cost of £12,673 for the widening of High Street, Putney, at the bridge over the railway.—The Ministry of Health have held an inquiry into the scheme for erection of baths at Streatham at a cost of £36,500.—Fresh tenders are to be invited for the erection of the library at Earlsfield.—Plans passed: 10 houses, Ellerton Road, for Messrs. Holloway Bros. (London), Ltd.

WESTMINSTER.—Messrs. Young & Hall, architects, have prepared supplementary drawings in connection with the Middlesex Hospital Annexe (formerly the Cleveland Street Infirmary), showing the use to which the front administrative block and the two side houses are to be put. The city engineer reports

that the work consists chiefly of the construction of new floors with teak finish, alterations to internal walls and partitions to suit the new conditions, and considers that the alterations constitute a general improvement and modernisation of the buildings.—The Libraries Committee now recommend the purchase of a site in Orange Street for the erection of a library in substitution of that in St. Martin's Lane, which is to be used by the Council for administrative purposes.—Orders have been made regarding the foundations of the following new buildings: 81 Piccadilly and 1, 2 and 3 Bolton Street; 80-82 Regent Street; 99-101 Regent Street; 16 Essex Street, Strand; 7, 8, 9 and 10 Little Dean Street; Goring Hotel Extension, Ebury Street and Victoria Street; Strand Telephone Exchange, Russell Street, Covent Garden.

WIMBLEDON.—Surrey Education Committee have passed the plans for the completion of the Wimbledon secondary school for girls, the estimated cost being £19,250. The plans have been submitted to the Board of Education for approval.

WIMBLEDON.—Mr. G. E. Scutt has prepared plans for a mission hall in Russell Street.—The Borough Engineer has prepared plans for the extension of the motor ambulance garage at the central fire station.—Mr. H. I. Merriman, F.R.I.B.A., has prepared revised plans for a building to be erected at the junction of The Rodgway and The Downs.—Plans passed: school buildings and caretaker's cottage, Wellington Road, for Mr. Joseph Bowen; boiler house extensions at electricity works, Durnsford Road, for Mr. Joseph Bowen.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JULY 10, 1875.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

An untidy block plan of the site accompanies a horribly lithographed set of conditions. A school for 300 girls, with dining room capable of accommodating half the number at a time, dormitories for teachers and servants, a set of rooms for the lady superintendent and a number of fittings are required at a cost not exceeding £5,000!

There are no premiums, but "the author of the plans ultimately adopted shall be employed to carry out the building."

The conditions are likewise not in accordance with rules 1, 6, 7, 8.

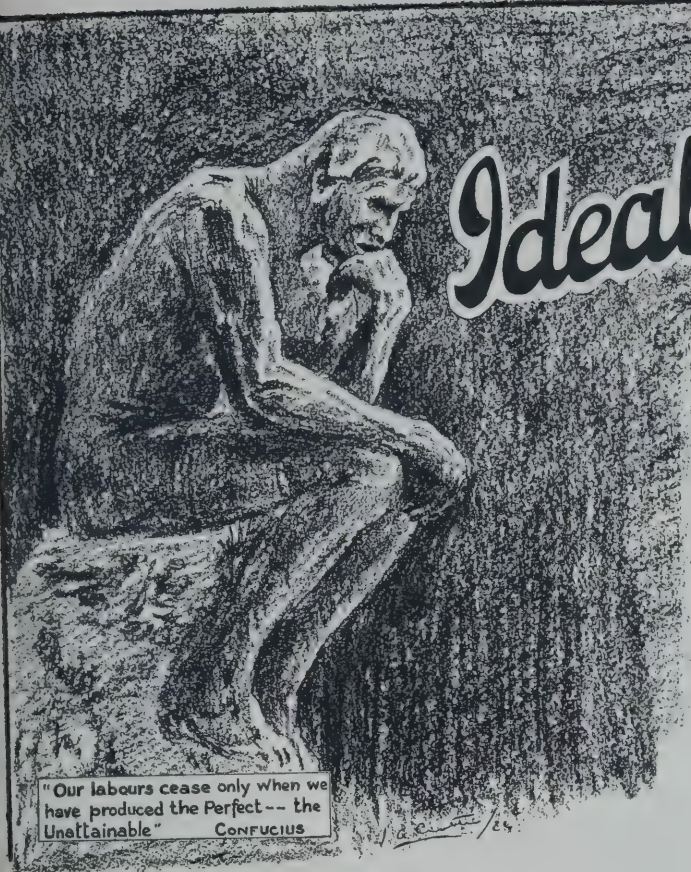
Time, August 18.

Midland Building Exhibition.

The Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition (including Public Works and Road Making Section), to be held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, from September 7 to 19, 1925, promises to be in every way successful.

The present year is thought to be an opportune moment to present a comprehensive display of all equipment and materials appertaining to the building industry, and, with this in view, a happy combination of all the important progressive trades organisations, representing the technical and operative aspect, and the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce undertaking the business organisation, has resulted in the foundation of a capable directorate to see the matter through. The exhibition is being held to stimulate progress in what is undoubtedly one of the most important questions of the moment, and to secure co-ordination of knowledge in the light of science and a systematic promotion of research, in order that orderly development of all the agencies which make for the betterment of the industry may be secured. The Exhibition presents an exceptionally good opportunity to all interested in the building and allied trades of displaying, under the best conditions, their productions to the architects, builders and others throughout the country, and more especially to those in the huge district comprising the Midland counties. The presidency has been accepted by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Alderman P. Bower, M.B.E., J.P., and the patronage and support of the following Associations has been obtained: Birmingham Architectural Association, Midland Federation of Building Trades Employers, Birmingham Association of Building Trades Employers, Birmingham and District Master House Builders' Association, Birmingham and District Master House Painters' Association, Birmingham and District Builders' Merchants' Association, Birmingham Association of Master Plumbers, Birmingham and District Master Gas Fitters' Association, Electrical Contractors' Association, Birmingham Civic Society, Clerks of Works and Building Foremen's Associations, Birmingham Tame and Rea District Drainage Board, Institution of Civil Engineers, Midland Counties Builders' Merchants' Association.

The members of the committee are prominent in trade and business circles, and the arrangements have been entrusted to the staff responsible for the successful British Industries Fair, with



Ideals of the Ages

THOUGHT

HERE is a common tendency—in measuring human progress—to pay greater tribute to those who achieved something tangible, rather than to the great thinkers of each generation whose master minds have moulded modern thought and will continue to influence the thought of many generations yet to come.

* * *

The electrical industry is beyond all others indebted to the thinkers and pioneers of the past. Whatever honour arises from our present day achievements should be rendered to the men who have made them possible.

"Craftsmen in Switches."

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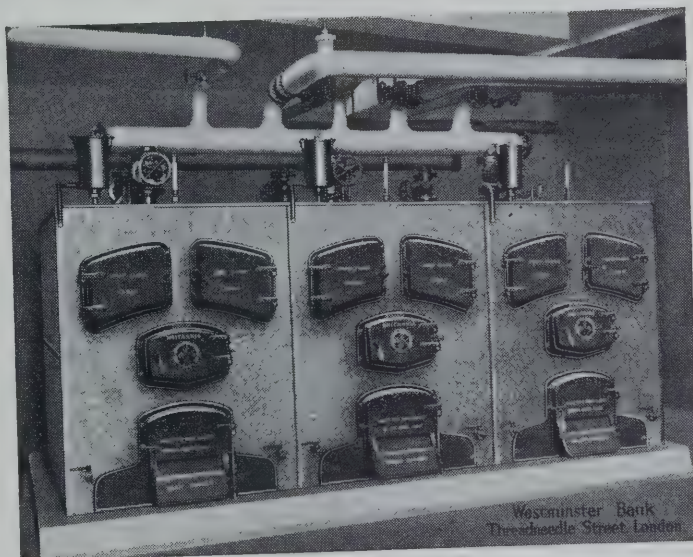
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Mr. G. Henry Wright as Secretary and Mr. Charles Stanley, as General Manager, their appointed positions in the Fair.

Sections will be allocated to exhibits comprising Building Materials; Builders' Ironmongery and Hardware; Architectural and Ornamental Work; Constructional Steelwork; Ferro-Concrete; Sanitary Apparatus; Appliances and Fittings; Contractors' Plant; Shop, Bar and Restaurant Fittings; Municipal Engineering and Equipment; Paints, Varnishes, Colours, Enamels, Stains, Polishes, etc.; Wood Preservatives, Glues and Adhesives; Mechanical and Hand Painting and Spraying Apparatus; Decorating Materials; Wallpapers and Coverings; Electrical, Gas, Oil and other Illuminating and Heating Plant and Fittings; Road Making Plant and Materials, and already the major part of the available space has been taken. Bingley Hall, the venue chosen, is well known and is situated within a few minutes' walk of the Town Hall, Post Office, railway and tram termini. It is very spacious and well lighted, with ample accommodation for the convenience of exhibitors and visitors. The Exhibition will be well advertised in the daily and trade Press and special efforts will be made to give every publicity to its objects, free invitations being extended to all interested in the building trades.

The following conferences have been arranged during the week: September 8, Birmingham Association of Building Trades Employers; September 9, Birmingham and District Master House Painters' Association; September 16, Birmingham and District House Builders' Association; September 17, Midland Federation of Building Trade Employers.

Prospectus and full particulars can be obtained from the General Manager, Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition, Chamber of Commerce, 95 New Street, Birmingham, to whom all correspondence should be addressed. To secure space immediate application is advisable.

St. Paul's Cathedral Preservation Fund.

The Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects has received a cheque for £30 9s., which has been subscribed by members of the Institute of Architects of New South Wales as a donation from that body towards the St. Paul's Cathedral Preservation Fund.

Trade Notes.

Messrs. Tangye, Ltd., of Cornwall Works, Birmingham, state their exhibit at the Royal Agricultural Show, Chester, will comprise the following items on Stand No. 268:

One 35 max. BHP Heavy Oil Engine, cold starting type.

One 10 BHP "AA" type Horizontal Oil Engine for refined petroleum, fitted with magneto ignition.

One each 5½ BHP and 7½ BHP Vertical Petrol Engines, mounted on skids.

One each 3¼" by 3", 4¼" by 4" and 5½" by 5" new design Vertical Single Ram Pumps.

Their exhibit also comprises several of their well-known Tan-gyro Centrifugal Pumps, a 6" by 6" Vertical Steam Engine, 6" by 6" by 6" Duplex Ballast Pump and a collection of pulley blocks, lifting jacks, etc.

They are also exhibiting at the Colliery and Mining Exhibition, Manchester, July 7 to 18, and the items being shown on their Stand No. 26 and 27 comprise the following:—

One six-stage electrically driven Turbine Pump.

One 5" by 8" Vertical Treble Ram Pump, electrically driven.

One each 3¼" by 3", 4¼" by 4" and 5½" by 5" new design Vertical Single Ram Pumps.

One 7" by 5" by 12" Vertical Simplex Boiler Feeder.

One 8½" by 6" by 15" ditto.

One 6" by 4" by 6" "A" and "B" type Horizontal Duplex Boiler Feeders.

One 12" by 6" by 24" Horizontal Special Steam Pump, 300 ft. series.

One each 3" and 4" "A" type Tan-gyro Centrifugal Pumps.

One each 3" and 4" "B" type ditto.

One 9" "B" type Tan-gyro Centrifugal Pump, specially designed for coal-washing purposes.

Also a collection of their various types of pulley blocks and lifting jacks.

And at the Highland Show, Glasgow, July 14 to 17, the following:—

One 30 BHP Heavy Oil Engine.

One 10 BHP "AA" type Oil Engine for refined petroleum.

One 4" by 6" Vertical Treble Ram Pump.

One 5½ BHP and 7½ BHP Vertical Petrol Engines on skids. 3¼" by 3", 4¼" by 4", and 5½" by 5" new design Vertical Single Ram Pumps.

Also several of their well-known Tan-gyro Centrifugal Pumps, pulley blocks, lifting jacks, etc.

"Everseal Liquid."

The Everseal Products, Ltd., Newton Works, Goldsmith Street, London, W.C.2, produce the "Everseal Liquid," the application of which will save 75 per cent. and the cost of tearing down an old roof and replacing it. One application only is necessary and anyone can use it, as it requires no melting, heating or mixing. It expands and contracts with the movement of any surface covered by it and therefore does not crack, bulge or peel off. It will not run in the sun nor crack in frost. The asbestos fibre acts as a binder, holding it in place while the gelsonite asphalt and water proofing oils give it body and elastic and rubber-like qualities. It is absolutely impervious to water and is practically indestructible. One American gallon will cover 100 feet on smooth surfaces and it is supplied in 60, 40, and 20 American gallon drums and also in 2, 4, 6 and 10 gallon packages for home trade only. Everseal Plastic is a heavier preparation applied by means of a trowel by unskilled labour and is used for making good leaks in every kind of roof covering and for treating defective flashings, damp walls, leaky cellars, and other like purposes. The price is 8s. 6d. per American gallon and special quotations are given for quantities.

The Waygood-Otis Club.

The Waygood-Otis Club held their sixteenth annual sports and garden party on their ground at Bellingham on Saturday (June 27). Although the weather was dull the attendance was very good, a large number of the members and their friends being present to enjoy the admirable programme provided. Among the most interesting events decided were the 100 Yards Flat Handicap, won by Mr. G. R. Maryon in 10 2-5 sec., the Veterans' and the Ladies' 100 Yards being won by Mr. F. Eldridge and Miss L. Barton respectively. The Half-Mile and One Mile Cycle Handicaps were won by Mr. J. Davies, and the 440 Yards Club Championship Cup, which carries with it a gold medal, was won by Mr. S. Piper—for the fourth time in succession. The One Mile Flat Handicap was won by Mr. R. H. Maryon, the 220 Yards Handicap by Mr. S. Piper, the Hurdle Race by Mr. G. R. Maryon, and the Departmental Relay Race—6 teams competing—by the Contracts Department. The Departmental Tug-of-War Challenge Cup passed from the existing holders—the Service Department—to the Transport Department, after a splendid pull lasting 6½ minutes. A cup presented to the Club by Mr. H. C. Walker, the Chairman of the Company, to be held for one year by the winner of the greatest number of individual events, was awarded to Mr. G. R. Maryon. The distribution of the prizes by Mrs. C. Clarke, wife of one of the managing directors, was preceded by a presentation to Mr. C. H. J. Day (starter) of a silver cigarette box by the members, in appreciation of the active interest he had always taken in the affairs of the Club. Mr. George Martin, in making the presentation, reviewed the career of the Club from its birth in 1905, said that the present high position it had attained was largely due to the efforts made by Mr. Day; he wished him long life in which to enjoy the use of the gift he was handing to him. Mr. Day, in accepting the presentation, thanked Mr. Martin and the members for their good wishes, and said he should always prize it for the happy memories it carried with it. Music was provided by the Southern Railway Military Band, and dancing followed until darkness concluded the proceedings.

The Worshipful Company of Fanmakers, who hold an annual competition, have awarded their silver medal to Mr. J. Vernon Shaw, of Tower House, Lodge Lane, Warrington.

WORCESTER County Council have accepted the tender, £27,941 19s. 8d., of Messrs. Vale & Sons, Ltd., of Stourport, for the construction of a new bridge over the River Avon at Evesham and road work.

YORK.—The Education Committee have prepared estimates of £3,500 for the erection of a bath block and conveniences and £650 for central heating at the Fulford Road school.—It has been decided to provide a headmaster's house in the grounds of the Nunthorpe Secondary school.—An elementary school is to be erected on the Tang Hall housing estate.—Plans passed: blacksmith's shop and store, Haxby Road, for Messrs. Rowntree and Co., Ltd.; workshop, Cromwell Road, for Mr. J. Bousfield; additions, Nags Head Inn, Heworth, for Messrs. W. H. Thackeray & Co., pavilion in Terry Avenue, and offices in Bishopsthorpe Road, for Messrs. Joseph Terry & Sons; builder's shed and offices, Risfergate, for Messrs. F. Shepherd & Son, Ltd.

SHITTLINGTON.—West Riding Education Committee are acquiring a site at Shitlington Middlestown from the Wakefield R.D.C. for the erection of an elementary school.

OTLEY.—The Board of Education have given approval to a scheme of extensions at the Otley Grammar School.

CONTENTS.

Architectural Practice and Procedure	PAGE 35	Libel Action by Architects	PAGE 50
New P. & O. Steam Navigation Offices	38	Competition News	50
British Architects' Conference—Newcastle and Durham	39	General News	52

Architectural Practice and Procedure.*



NEW P. & O. STEAM NAVIGATION OFFICES, ST. MARY AXE ENTRANCE.
COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.

Mr. Hamilton Turner has written a book on "Architectural Practice and Procedure," which is practically the substance of a series of lectures given to students of the Architectural Association. The book will be a useful guide to the young and inexperienced architect, and possibly to some others of more experience. As is inevitable with works of this nature, a good deal is said for the sake of completeness which might be omitted, and certain counsels of perfection are enumerated which, like Mr. Wightwick's statements in his "Hints to Young Architects," are unlikely to be followed! The sum of much that is said on such matters

* "Architectural Practice and Procedure," by Hamilton H. Turner, F.S.I. London: B. T. Batsford, Ltd.

can be described as underlined advice to be very prudent in all matters, and once this counsel is given and accepted a good many of the methods indicated by the author are inevitable and scarcely need description. For instance, it is obviously wise to keep copies of letters and to keep the correspondence relating to any one matter together by itself for ready reference.

This being said, it hardly appears to us to be necessary to write a chapter on the "Keeping and Recording of Papers." It would also appear obviously reasonable that the architect should keep trade catalogues in some sort of order for purposes of reference.

The second chapter, entitled "How Work is Obtained," is either superfluous or requires more subtle

analysis. It is quite evident that it must come as the author states: (a) through friends; (b) as the result of actual work; (c) by specialisation; (d) by luck; (e) through solicitors; (f) competitions, or nine other methods, and the author says nothing under any of these heads which can be described otherwise than as a simple truism. This chapter would be more useful if the author explained that every man's methods of obtaining work must be determined by his character and disposition. One man will easily and naturally



NEW P. & O. OFFICES, LEADENHALL STREET, E.C.:
P. & O. BANKING CORPORATION ENTRANCE.
MESSRS. COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.

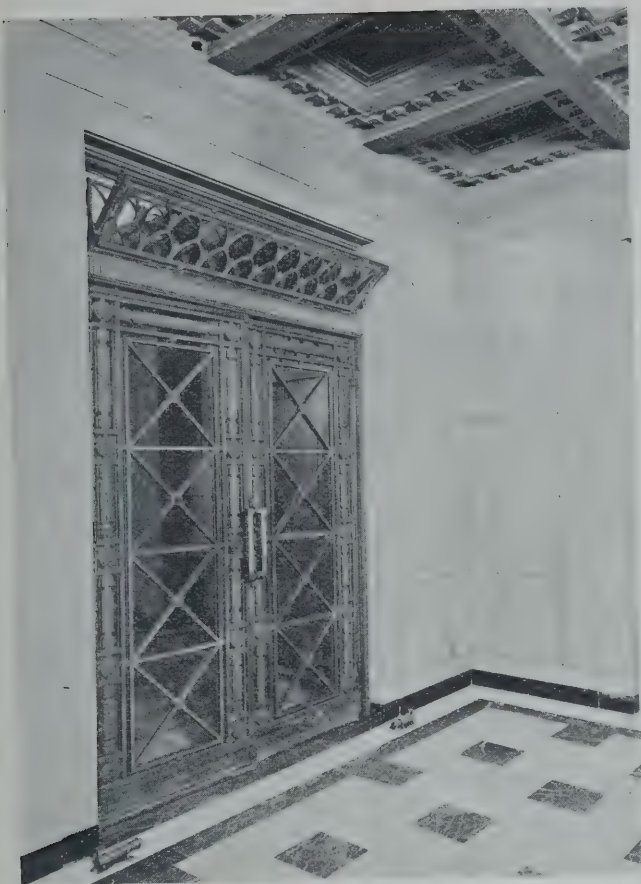
build up a clientele among his friends, another would find it almost impossible to do so, but, on the other hand, might with wisdom attempt to build up a practice by entering the competitive arena. We doubt if many men have succeeded in building up a practice through friendships unless the material advantage to be gained through such relations has been a secondary object. The men who succeed through the help of their friends are usually those whose enjoyment of social relations leads to their being made or enlarged. The man who attempts to make friends for an ultimate personal advantage is in most cases either recognised as a bore or regarded with suspicion. We agree with the author that specialisation is often dangerous, the reason of which seems to us to

be this: The belief in "experts" is more often than not a sign of ignorance on the part of the public. The really expert architect is the man whose knowledge and grip of planning is such that he can readily deal with any problem presented to him, not the man who has side-tracked the study required for the mastery of the science of planning in an endeavour to give closer study to a specialised branch of it in relation to one particular type of building. The best sections of the book are those which deal with the writing of specifications, the inspection of works and the making of approximate estimates, in fact, in precisely those matters in which the author's experience as a quantity surveyor enables him to speak with authority. We have sometimes felt that the great debt which architects owe to able quantity surveyors is not always sufficiently appreciated. The author cannot well say what we can do in this matter. Our advice would always be that the architect should choose his quantity surveyor with judgment and stick to him "like glue," for if he makes a good choice he will always command very valuable service and help he can obtain in no other way. A very large number of difficulties can be best solved in consultation with an able surveyor, the nature of whose training and outlook supplies the most useful and efficient check on mistakes which an architect is prone to make. We quite agree with the author that it is most useful for the architect to have some direct knowledge of taking out quantities, but we also believe that it is in the general interest of both that the two professions should not be merged or carried out as they often are by one and the same individual. We believe that where time permitted it would be well that an architect should include in his training a period in a quantity surveyor's and also in a builder's office, but that the knowledge so obtained should be used to enable him to work more efficiently both with quantity surveyors and builders in their own spheres. An independent quantity surveyor appointment is at once a help to the architect and a safeguard to the builder, a position which is abrogated if the architect himself takes out his own quantities. For the above reasons we are glad that the London system is making headway in the provinces, though we should readily admit that the older method has resulted in the training of many efficient all-round architects. But we are nevertheless convinced that the greatest practical use of the architect to the community will result from his becoming a master of planning, and this result will usually be more readily obtained if he does not burden himself with the preparation of quantities, but works in close co-operation with a quantity surveyor.

On the subject of fees the author writes at some length about the R.I.B.A. Scale of Charges. We believe that the scale should be taken as a very general guide only. The important thing is that we should all of us make certain of fees which are satisfactory to us for the work we do, and a very large margin must be left for the individual equation. We doubt whether the suggestion that two-thirds, and not one-half, of the fees should be paid on signing the contract is not a little apt to lead to the undervaluation of the importance of the supervision of the works, and for this reason we believe there is much to be said for the old scale in which one-half, and not two-thirds, of the fees became due on signing the contract. But since the scale of fees is only suggestive it is open for us to do as we think best in this important matter. In the question of the payment for the services of specialist advisers whose services may be necessary in drawing up specifications for various

works included in a specification we are decidedly of opinion that there is no reason why these fees should not in almost every case be borne by the architect himself and not by the employer. An architect's fees are considered to cover his professional services in designing and supervising work, and as long as his fees are based on a percentage of the cost it seems obviously fair that he should pay for work he cannot cope with unaided. The design and calculation of constructional steelwork and ferro-concrete, heating, lighting and other engineering matters are subjects on which most architects require some expert help. Unless they wish to see such matter dealt with independently by their clients, architects should, it seems to us, refrain from asking their clients to foot the bill for expert advice and help which is no more reasonable than it would be to ask a client to pay assistants' salaries in addition to fees. If a building is very complicated, a case may be made out for charging higher fees, but in every case it seems to us that such fees should be "inclusive" in the architect's own interests.

We believe that when friction on the subject of architects arises it is more often from the failure of an architect to recognise the wisdom of accepting the rough with the smooth and also to realise that no scale of fees will provide a satisfactory income to an architect who has little work. We should be inclined to define architects as a body of men who are, on the whole, well paid for the work they do, but among them is a very considerable number who never get a sufficient amount of work to ensure them a reasonably comfortable income.



P. & O. STEAM NAVIGATION OFFICES: VESTIBULE.
MESSRS. COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.



NEW P. & O. OFFICES, LEADENHALL STREET, E.C.: VIEW OF BANKING HALL ENTRANCE.
MESSRS. COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.

Our Illustrations.

NEW P. & O. STEAM NAVIGATION OFFICES, LEADENHALL STREET AND ST. MARY AXE, E.C., WITH VIEWS
OF THE P. & O. BANKING HALL. MESSRS. COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.

HOUSE, WOODLAND WAY, COULSDON. MESSRS. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

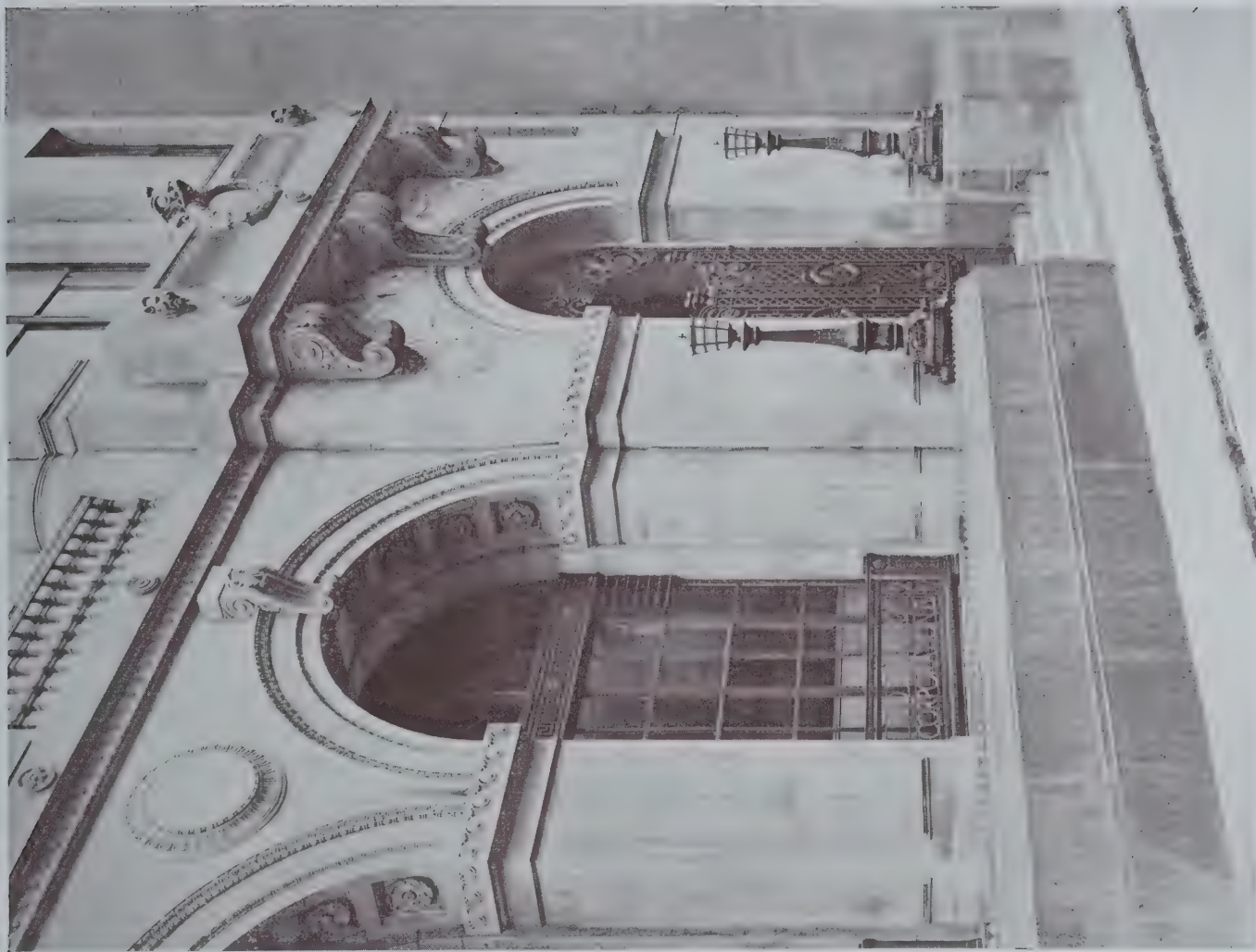


DIANA. PAUL MANSHIP, Sculptor.

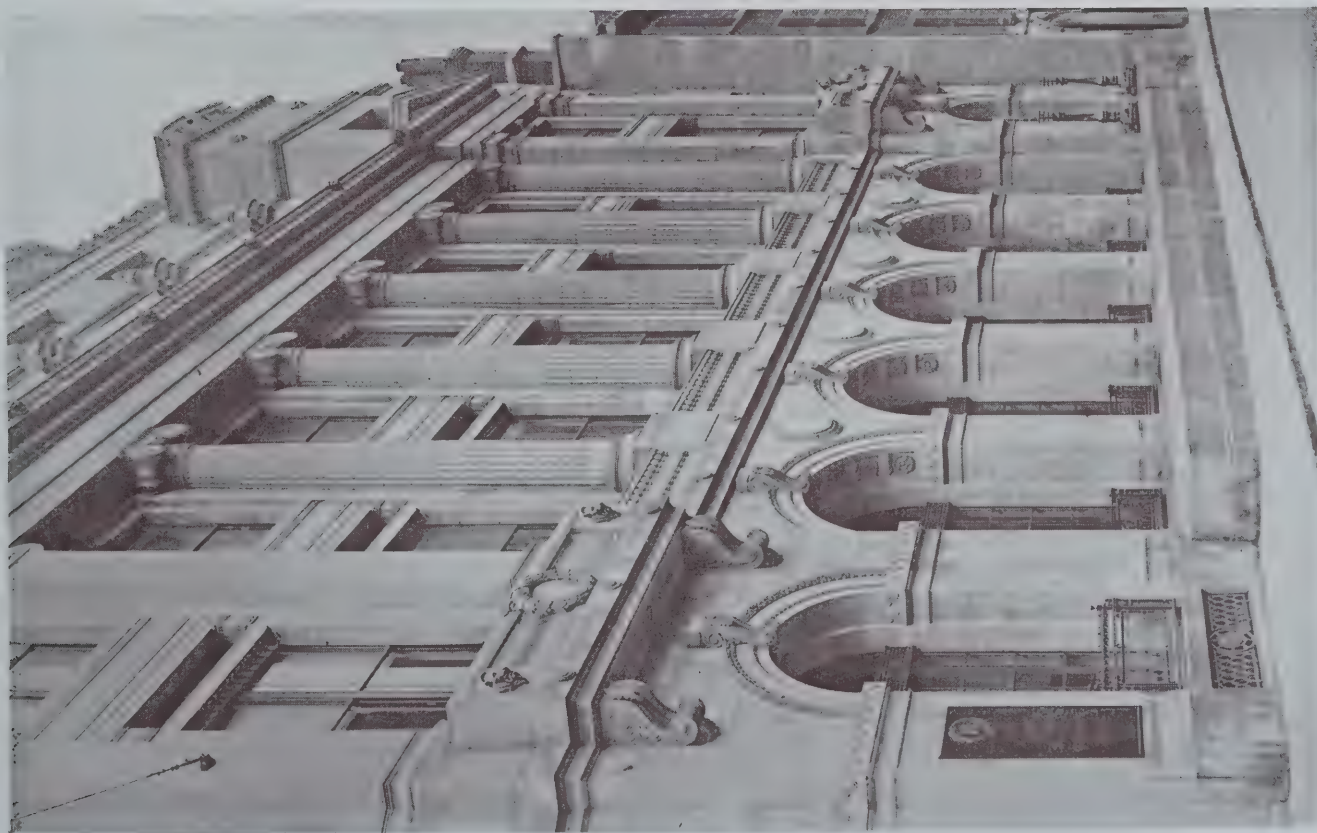
New P. & O. Steam Navigation Offices, Leadenhall Street and St. Mary Axe, E.C.

The whole of the upper part of the building is in Portland stone. The roof is covered with green slates in graduated courses, the dormers, hips and curbs to roof being in cast lead. The illustrations include a number of interior and exterior views of the building. The elevation in St. Mary Axe gives a very good idea of the architectural treatment which will characterise the whole building when completed. The whole of the work has been designed and carried out under the supervision of Mr. Stanley Hamp (Colclutt & Hamp), 126 Wigmore Street, W.1. The general contractors for the work are Messrs. Trollope & Colls, Ltd., of Coleman Street, and the following is a list of the sub-contractors:—Henry Hope & Sons, cast lead work; James Gray, Ltd.,

heating; W. Richardson & Co., windows; Electrical Installations, Ltd., electric light; Brookes, Ltd., granite work; Faldo & Co., asphalt; Birmingham, Guild, Ltd., bronze entrance door; H. W. Cullum & Co., hollow block floors; Waygood-Otis, Ltd., lifts; plumbing and sanitary work, Matthew Hall & Co. Messrs. Bellman, Ivey & Carter, Ltd., have carried out the entire marble wall decoration in Scagliola marble in the Banking Hall, which is illustrated by many of the views included in this review. Messrs. Burke & Co. supplied the marble work. The fine coffered ceiling in Banking Hall, with beams and entablature, is the work of Messrs. G. Jackson & Sons, Ltd. The stone enrichments were modelled and carved by Mr. P. G. Bentham, of Stamford Bridge Studio.

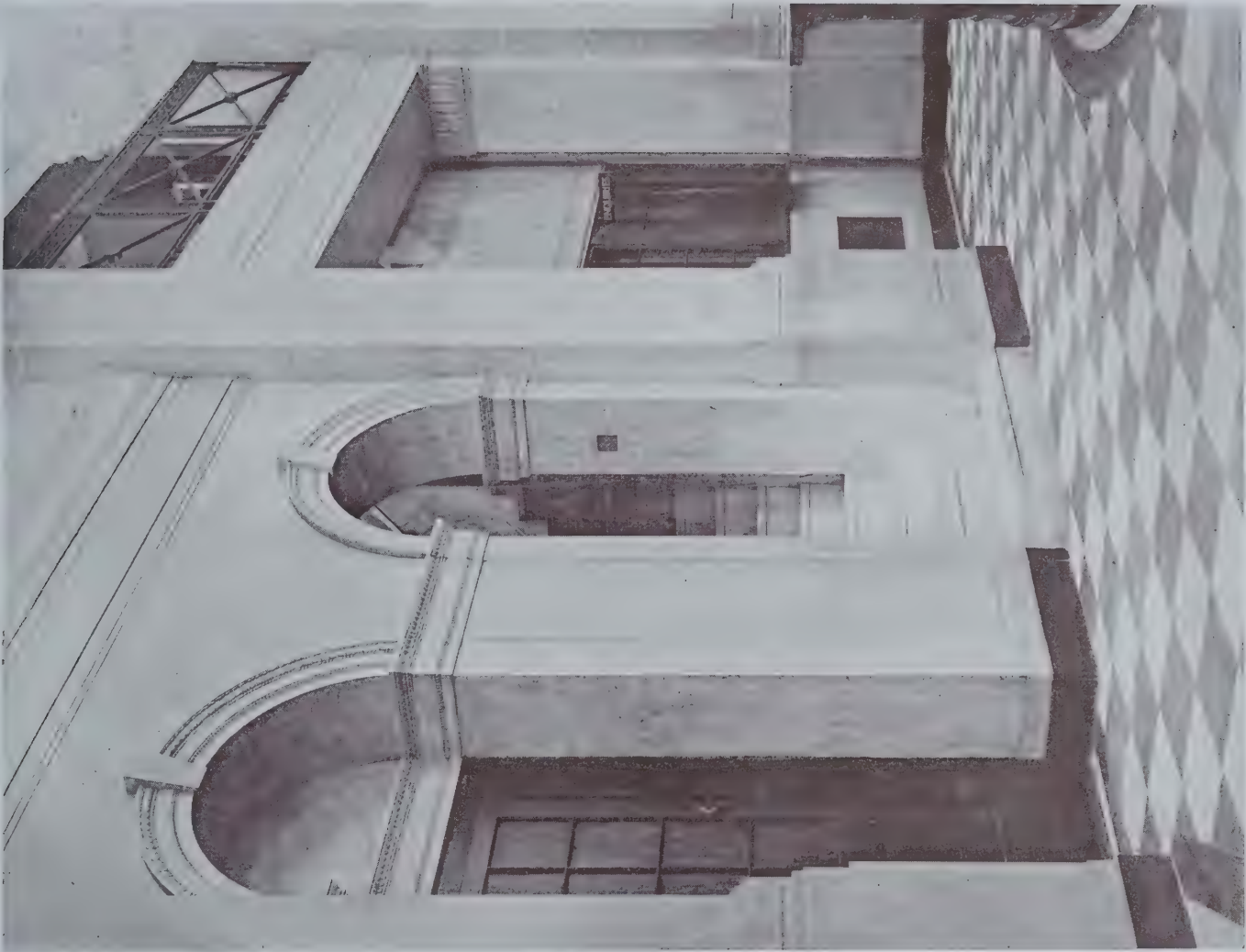


P. & O. BANKING CORPORATION.
P. & O. STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY OFFICES, ST. MARY AXE.
COLLCUTT & HAMP, ARCHITECTS.



P. & O. BANKING CORPORATION.
P. & O. STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY OFFICES, ST. MARY AXE.
COLLCUTT & HAMP, ARCHITECTS.

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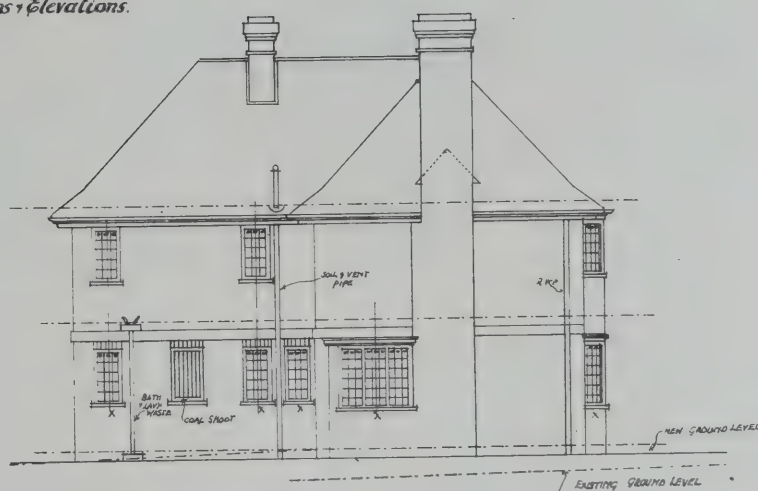
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COLLCUTT & HAMP, ARCHITECTS.

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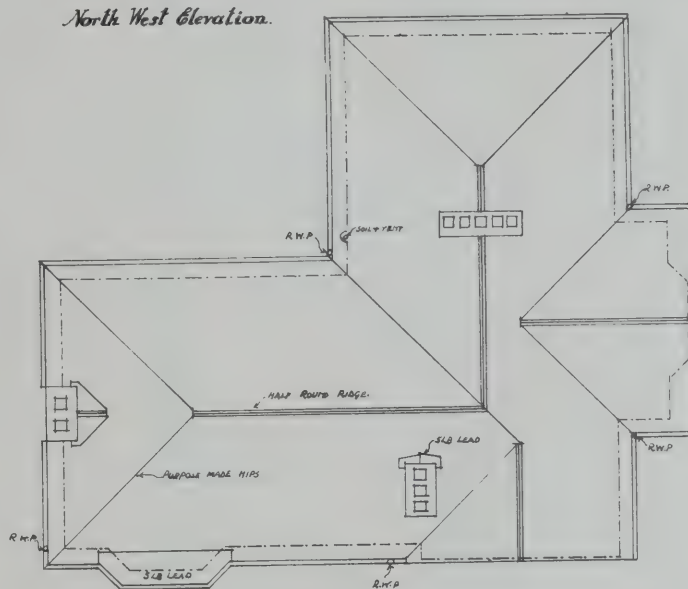
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THE
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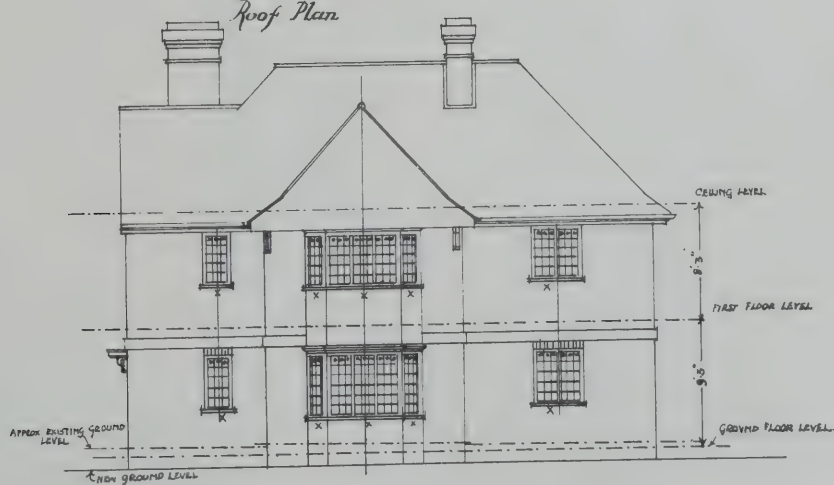
$\frac{1}{8}$ " scale Plans & Elevations.



North West Elevation.



Roof Plan



South East Elevation.

Nicholls & Hughes.
Architects
4 Raymond Buildings.
Grays Inn London.

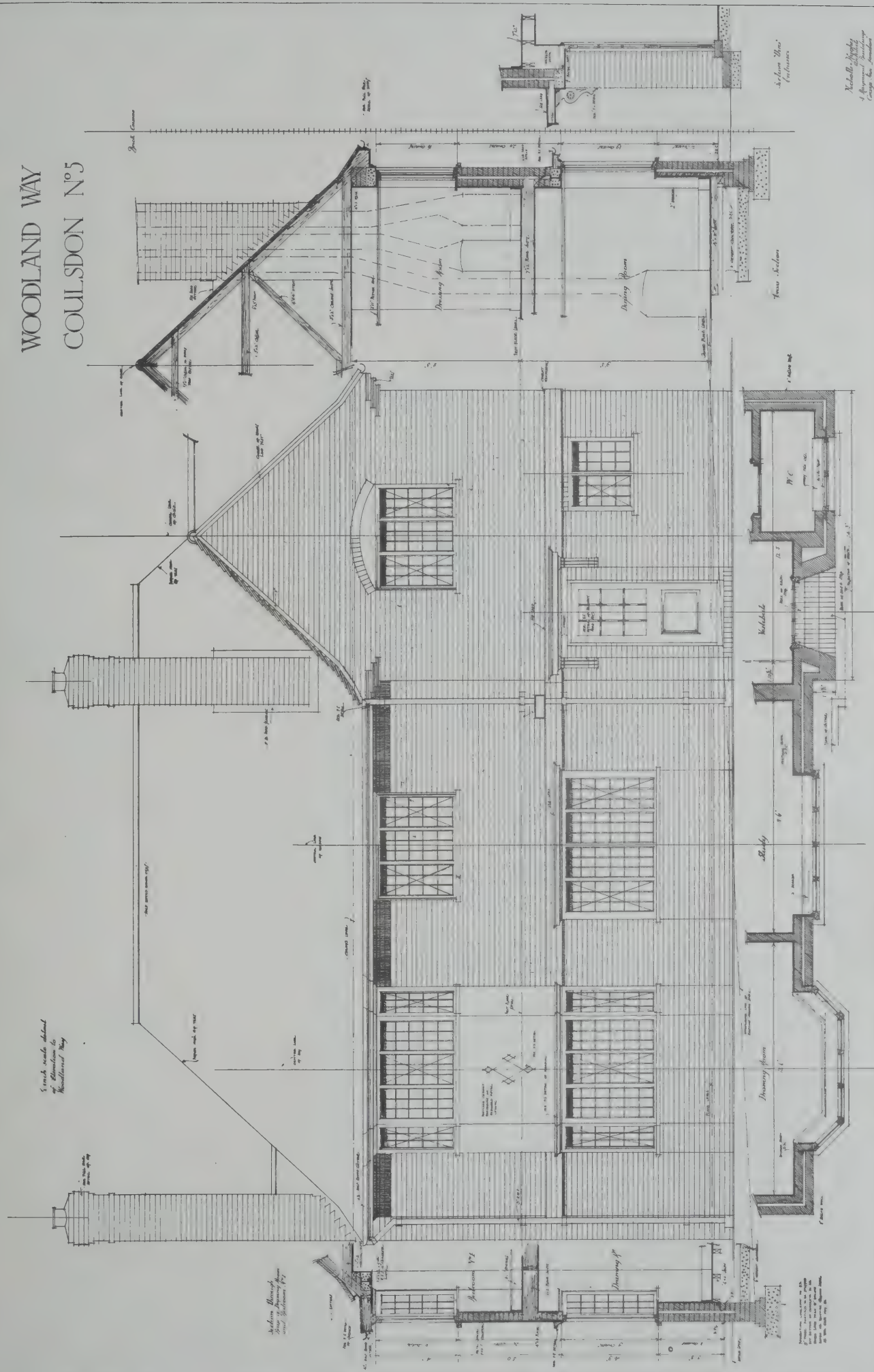
PHOTO-LITHO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD LONDON, E C 3

1) WAY, COULSDON.

HES. ARCHITECTS.

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WOODLAND WAY
COULSDON N°5



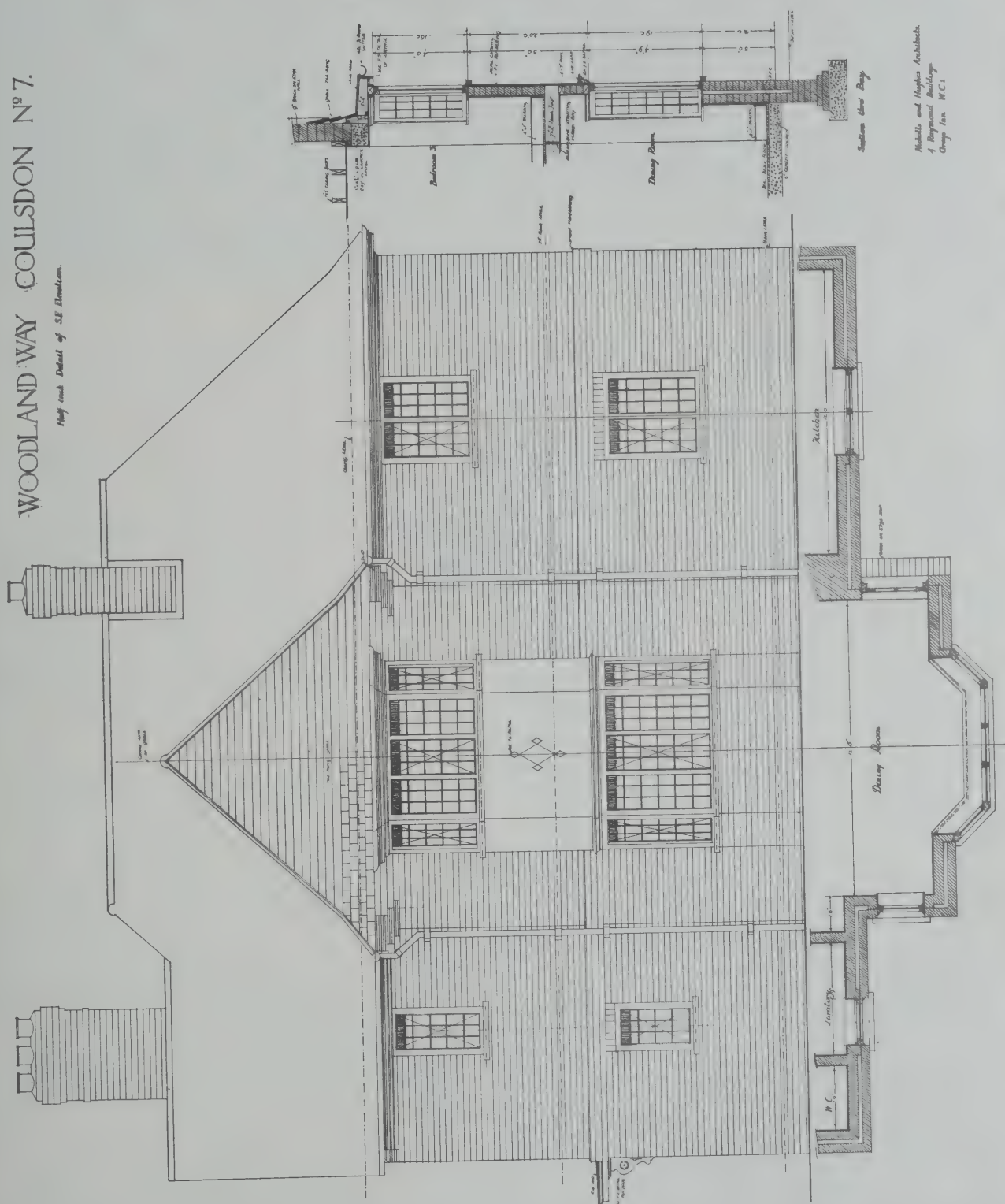
"PHOTO-LITHO." W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

HOUSE, WOODLAND WAY, COULSDON.
NICHOLLS & HUGHES, ARCHITECTS.

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WOODLAND WAY COULSDON N^o 7.

Half-inch Detail of S.E. Elevation.



Michells and Hughes Architects
4 Raymond Buildings
Croydon, Surrey W.C.1

PHOTO-LITHO: Wm BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

HOUSE, WOODLAND WAY, COULSDON.

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MAPLE TERRACE APARTMENTS, DALLAS, TEXAS. ALFRED C. BOSSOM, Architect.

British Architects' Conference—Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Durham. July 8–11, 1925.

Thursday, July 9, 1925.

CIVIC RECEPTION BY THE LORD MAYOR AND CORPORATION.

The guests were received by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Newcastle (Alderman and Mrs. Walter Lee) with the Sheriff and Mrs. John Grantham.

The LORD MAYOR: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Royal Institute of British Architects, on behalf of the city I have the privilege, as Lord Mayor, of extending to you a very hearty welcome to Newcastle.

We all realise the part that your profession takes in beautifying cities, and we look to you men to help us—who are responsible for the municipal life of the city—to help us in trying our best, with our vision, to provide a city beautiful.

We have had men with vision in the past, like Dobson and Armstrong. Dobson was the architect for about the only street that we can justly be proud of in Newcastle, which is Grey Street.

It is not the time for me to touch, perhaps, very much on these matters, because I shall have an opportunity of addressing you later. Therefore I just confine myself, in conclusion, to again extending to you, on behalf of the city, a very cordial welcome.

The PRESIDENT, Mr. Guy E. Dawber: My Lord Mayor, Mr. Sheriff, on behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects, I thank you very heartily for the cordial welcome you have given us to-night, in such a beautiful hall. As you say, we are going to have a little speech-making to-morrow night, and as there is an engagement you have shortly to fulfil I do not propose to say anything further except to thank you for your kindness in having us here to-night.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE.

The PRESIDENT, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., officially welcomed the members of the Conference.

The PRESIDENT: Ladies and Gentlemen, it is very gratifying to find such a large attendance at this, the first meeting of the Conference. I am very pleased to say that we have with us the Presidents of most of the Allied Societies and a great many of their past Presidents. We have also with us twelve members of the Council of the Royal Institute in London, and a great many of the other

members, representatives of our Dominions Overseas. Mr. and Mrs. R. Alsop of Australia, Mr. Kerr from Australia, and Mr. McWilliams from South Africa, and Mr. Harvey Corbett from New York. It is always very encouraging to see these members from different parts of the country, apart from those visitors of ours from Overseas whom we welcome most cordially, because one of the most important elements of this Conference is that it gives us a valuable opportunity of architects meeting their brother architects, and of discussing with them the various problems which confront us all at the present time.

We meet together, we lunch together, we dine together and all under the most favourable auspices; we can visit places of historic interest and beauty, and for two or three days at least we can leave all the turmoils of the office and of business matters behind us, and enjoy ourselves in this way. A most excellent programme has been arranged for us, and I am sure that we shall have an exceedingly pleasant time. But before we get to that part of the programme we always endeavour at the Conference to get an address on some subject of interest to us as architects by an authority on the subject, and we are exceedingly fortunate in the fact that we are going to have an address on "Architects and the Public" from Sir Theodore Morison. Sir Theodore needs no introduction to you from me; he is the Principal of the Armstrong College, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Durham and he is a great educationist. He served on a great many battle fronts during the War, and he is well known to all of you in this part of the country and throughout Great Britain.

He is going to give us to-day a paper from the layman's point of view on "Architects and the Public," and I am sure that we shall have great pleasure in listening to what he has to say to us on that subject. It is extremely kind of Sir Theodore to come here to-day because we all sympathise with him in the serious illness of his wife. Sir Theodore tells me that she is getting better, and I am sure that he has our most sincere sympathy in the domestic trouble which he is passing through, and we thank him all the more for coming here to-day to address us under the stress of what must be a very great anxiety.

SIR THEODORE MORISON: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me first of all thank you for the very kind and sympathetic reference which has been made to the anxiety I have recently been going through, and I may tell you now that the most acute part of that anxiety has now

been removed. My wife is distinctly better, and the nurses and the doctors give me the assurance that, though her convalescence will be long, she is now on the high road to health. I can assure you that it gives me the greatest possible pleasure to take part in the reception of the Royal Institute of British Architects to Newcastle, and on behalf of the University—and I must speak for the University—and of the whole city and town I bid you the most hearty of welcomes.



DETAIL VIEW OF ENTRANCE, MAPLE TERRACE APARTMENTS. ALFRED C. BOSSOM, Architect.

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING BY SIR THEODORE MORISON, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., C.B.E., M.A., VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

I am sure that in your conference you will debate many questions of importance, but I trust that you may spare some hours from serious business to visit the locality of which Newcastle is the nerve centre. I believe that you will find in it much to interest you, for you are in a neighbourhood which has a long architectural history. From Newcastle you may visit the remains of the Great Wall which marked the farthest confines of the Roman Empire; you may inspect the site of the rude cell in which St. Cuthbert kept alight the lamp of Christianity on the Farne Islands—still a sanctuary indeed, but consecrated now to the puffin and the guillemot and other nesting sea birds. Near us, to the south, is that noble Cathedral which Professor Prentout, who fills the Chair of Norman History at the University of Caen, presents to his pupils as the finest specimen of Norman architecture. By the railway station you have already noticed, I am sure, the historic keep from which the town takes its name, and in our streets and upon the quays you will find here and there other traces of the Middle Ages: a friary sadly fallen from its original splendour and houses of the guilds which once controlled the commerce and industry of the Tyne. But these you will have to hunt for, because the flood of modern industrialism has partially submerged these landmarks of our history, and we will strike you principally as a modern industrial city, occupied, a good deal less than we could wish, with mechanical engineering, the building of giant steamers and the export of coal.

Now a modern industrial city presents to architects some very difficult problems to which we should like you to give thought. We must all acknowledge that the cities which we owe to the Industrial Revolution are sadly

lacking in beauty. The age which gave man unexampled control over the forces of nature, which supplied architects with an embarrassing wealth of building material and possibilities of construction hitherto unimagined contributed nothing to the charm of our cities. On the contrary, it has made most of them little better than grimy workshops from which the wealthier inhabitants hasten to get away. Why this lack of charm in modern towns? Is modern industry incompatible with beauty? These are the questions which I think architects and the public might discuss together with advantage. I am not going to lure you into a discussion on town-planning, for you certainly know much more upon that question than I do. Let it be agreed between us that we are suffering in part from remediable evils; that our towns might be laid out much more wisely, that smoke need not pollute our atmosphere; let us assume that a wiser generation than ours will act instead of grumbling and build the clean and spacious towns which we might have if we wished. Nor am I going to ask you to consider how we can improve the humbler quarters of the town, those "drab, unlovely streets," in which the working classes are doomed to live. I want to concentrate attention upon a socially less important problem which concerns architects more nearly. The ugliness of which I complain is that in our principal thoroughfares, in the pretentious quarter of the city which pays high rates, and in which land is bought by the foot. Here should be the buildings which we show to our visitors with pride as the ornament of the city; yet this is the very quarter in which our failure is most apparent. I speak to you, gentlemen, in this discussion as a representative of the public, and I will begin by admitting frankly that for the want of beauty in our main thoroughfares the public, your clients, must bear the greater part of the blame. To my mind the main fault of our modern streets is the want of harmonious design; taken separately many of the buildings are well enough, but each of them, in too many towns, is of a different height and in a different style, and the effect of all together is nothing but discord. The street, not the single house, should be the unit of urban building, and the street should be planned as an architectural whole; each building in it should be in harmony with the general design and should contribute to its realisation. Our streets are a riot of individualism; each owner has indulged his particular taste or fancy; very often his object has apparently been to be as bizarre and unlike his neighbours as possible. In one of the busiest thoroughfares of Newcastle I have counted in one block as many as eight different heights from the pavement to the parapet; it is not a street at all but a jumble of oddly assorted houses. In the past the prevalence of a great tradition, or possibly the authority of the architect, was strong enough to curb the exuberant fancy of the private owner and an architectural policy was followed in the construction of our streets. To this we owe the quiet dignity of Bath and the stateliness of the new town of Edinburgh, and to my mind the merit of the Rue Castiglione and the Place Vendôme—to take only one example from this quarter of Paris—is due more to the design of the street than to the excellence of the individual buildings.

How can we get back to that better tradition? How can we persuade the individual to subordinate his fancy to a general design? To educate the whole public would be a long business and might well fill you with despair. But our task is not really so serious as that. The people we want to influence are neither very numerous nor very hard to convince. They are the owners of house property in the shopping quarter; in most cases they belong to that part of the commercial community which is engaged in retail trade. They are keenly alive to the importance of making their property attractive, and they are not likely to be indifferent to our arguments. For, in brief, what we have to say is this: "The shopping quarter ought to be the most delightful part of the town; it should be so pleasant that people would wander there for the mere pleasure of beholding it even when they did not propose to make purchases. And if you, the shopowners, will

adopt our architectural policy we will make it a joy to go a-shopping." And indeed it is not fantastical to say that a beautiful aspect is a necessity for a shopping quarter. It is the incomparable view of Edinburgh Castle which has turned Princes Street into an uninterrupted line of shops; the Rue de Rivoli possesses not only architectural dignity but the view of the Louvre and the Tuileries Gardens. Shops are beginning to invade the Place Vendôme as well as St. James's Square. I think we do not need to insist that good architecture pays the shopkeeper; he knows it already and is ready to back his knowledge with money. What he has failed to grasp is that he cannot get full value for his expenditure unless he submits to a general design. A special effort would, I believe, be needed to bring this point of view before the commercial community; we may assume, I suppose, that they do not read the architectural magazines with any regularity. An occasional article in the R.I.B.A. Journal would not therefore effect much. I suggest to you that the proper course is that some distinguished architect who is filled with zeal for the improvement of his city should approach one or other of the professional societies into which the commercial community is organised; they are in the habit of meeting in such societies to discuss their common interests, and I do not believe they would be indifferent to a well-considered appeal to adopt a common policy with regard to building.

But if, gentlemen, you are prepared to make an appeal to the commercial public may I venture to suggest that you yourselves must be prepared to make some concessions to the necessities of this commercial age. In the modern world advertising is a necessity, and you will not make much impression upon men of business unless you frankly recognise that fact. In the past a too fastidious taste has prevented you from taking account of advertising. You have allowed advertising to fall into other less skilful hands. For your neglect you have paid a heavy penalty, for your noblest buildings have been defaced by monstrous gold letters which outrage the symmetry on which you spent so much thought. I hope I shall not offend the high browed if I say that in the elevation of a commercial building you must take account of the need for publicity and make the inevitable lettering a part of your design. There is no reason why lettering should not be brought into harmony with architectural form and at the same time arrest the attention of the passer-by. In the East lettering is the most conspicuous and most beautiful decoration at the disposal of the Islamic architect. What could be more decorative than the verses of the Koran sculptured on a mosque? The majestic gateway of the Taj at Agra is covered with noble Arabic characters, and the chief ornament upon the tomb itself is to be found in the sacred texts inlaid in black marble; so highly did the Muhamadans prize this form of ornamentation that famous calligraphists were brought all the way from Shiraz to design the inscriptions upon the Taj.

From what I have seen with my own eyes I am convinced that lettering can not only be brought into harmony with an architectural design, but can add to its beauty.

No doubt you are all painfully familiar with the harm done to noble buildings by the unskilful advertiser. If you are not, a walk down one of the chief shopping streets of Newcastle will show you how completely his tasteless signs can ruin a good thoroughfare. But this is not the end of the tale of woe. The disfigurement of our streets by day is bad enough, but what invective can adequately stigmatise the advertisements of flashing light which make the night hideous? And for this I venture to take the architectural profession seriously to task. Was ever so great an opportunity missed! Had you taken charge of this new method of publicity you might have made even our modern cities beautiful at night. The illumination of a building can very easily produce a charming effect. Of that also I can vouch from Indian experience. In all the world there is no prettier festival than the Diwali, the Feast of Lamps. As soon as the sun has set little lights begin to glow on the parapet and along all the cornices of every Hindu house; every architectural feature is lit up

so that the whole building is outlined in light. This fairy decoration, which I never saw without delight, is produced by the crudest means—merely a wick stuck into a rough clay saucer of oil—but the charm of it is beyond description. Why should we not produce the same effect? Our resources are immeasurably greater than those of Indian villagers and there is a strong economic motive for making a shop, a restaurant or a cinema palace so beautiful that people will flock to see it. One attempt to make use of light as part of the normal decoration of a building at night I have seen recently in London—in the large Lyons restaurant at the top of the Haymarket. I thought the effect very attractive, but I have had no opportunity of examining it



MAPLE TERRACE APARTMENTS. ALFRED C. BOSSOM, Architect.

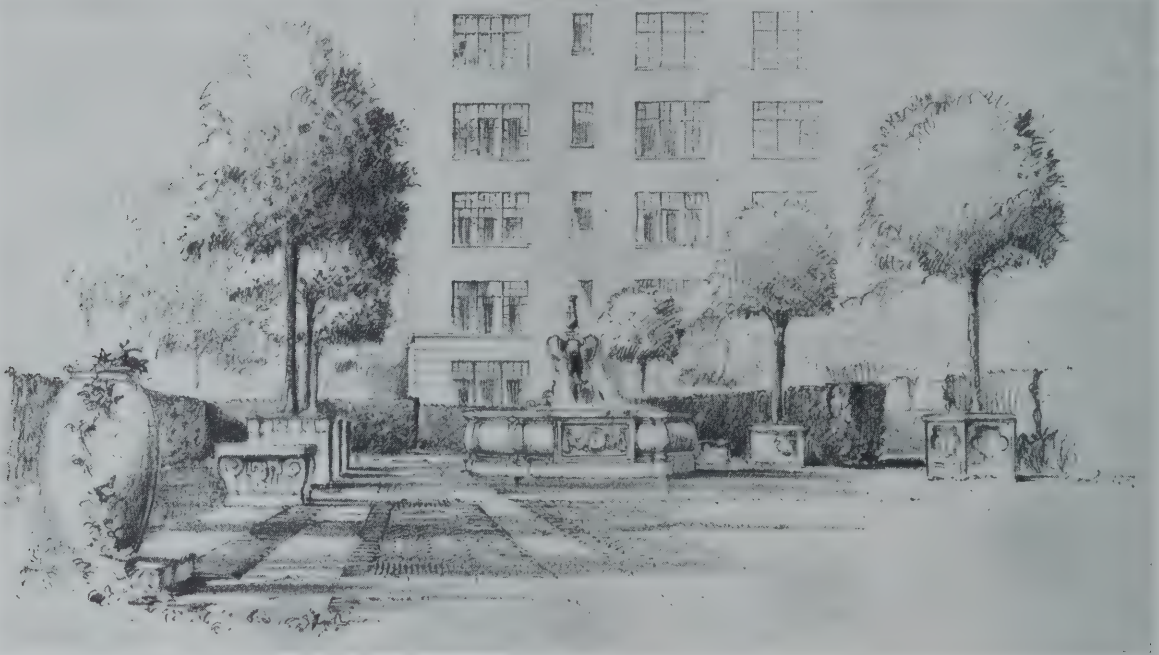
closely. I saw enough, however, to convince me that the illumination was part of the architect's design and to make me hope that other architects will make similar experiments.

The two points that I wish to make to you, then, are these: we must firstly persuade the owners of property in our shopping quarters that harmony of design is essential to the beauty of a street and that they must therefore agree, jointly and severally, to pursue one architectural policy. Secondly, the architects who design the elevations of mercantile buildings must make provision for publicity both by day and by night. If we could have our way on these two points I believe that we could make the opulent quarters of our industrial towns pleasant and beautiful. I am sure that our architects in modern England are capable of designing streets which it would be a pleasure to walk in and a joy to behold. I think the modern shop contains a great many elements of artistic pleasure which well deserve a noble setting. An unhealthy literary romanticism has made us believe that modern things are always vulgar and ugly. This is absurdly untrue; if we would only trust the evidence of our senses and not call to mind what we have read about Art we should see that a shop window containing, say, a lady's hat and parasol, may be a very pretty thing, and that the ties, socks and fancy shirts of a modern hosier present a feast of colour quite as rich as the carpets and shawls of an Oriental bazaar.

I have confined my remarks to one quarter of the city; I believe if we could once show the public how beauty could be achieved in certain streets they would quickly adapt the principle in other areas. How to make the

dwelling of working men more cheerful and more healthy is a larger and more serious problem, with which I do not venture to deal to-day; that is not primarily a problem for architects but for local authorities and the Ministry of Health; to deal with it would require consideration of national finance and economic policy for which this is not

all that one might have wished. I feel that our problem is to find out how that control can be exercised in the most useful way, and that is a matter in which those engaged in Town Planning are particularly interested, and it may be that when the proper control in regard to buildings comes to be exercised in a proper manner, it will result in the



MAPLE TERRACE APARTMENTS, DALLAS, TEXAS. ALFRED C. BOSSOM, Architect.

the occasion. My humbler task has been to suggest two points for discussion by architects and the public.

THE PRESIDENT: I am going to ask Mr. Harvey Corbett, of New York, to propose a vote of thanks to Sir Theodore for his most interesting and instructive address.

MR. HARVEY CORBETT, who met with a most cordial reception, said: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I regard it as a very great privilege to be permitted to propose a vote of thanks to Sir Theodore Morison for the very illuminating and inspiring address which he has given us. I feel that if he finds the need of such modifications and changes as he has found in Newcastle, I am glad that he has not visited New York. I came to London and up here with a great feeling of relief because of the uniform height of your buildings. London for example, which I happen to know better than Newcastle, is like a beautiful rug, in which there are a variety of colours, but which all seem to blend in a harmonious whole. If you go to New York you will see buildings of from four to forty storeys alongside one another, and if Sir Theodore saw that I think he would feel that we needed his advice over the other side more than you do here. In proposing this vote of thanks I have only one regret, and that is that we cannot have Sir Theodore in New York to tell us in the way he has told you here the things that we of all people ought to know. I have the greatest possible pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Theodore for his splendid and helpful address.

MR. ARTHUR KEEN: I have the greatest pleasure in associating myself with Mr. Harvey Corbett in this vote of thanks to Sir Theodore Morison for the most interesting and suggestive address which he has given us this morning. The question of the control and freedom of any of our acts seems to me to be extraordinarily interesting. We all recognise that whilst freedom must be exercised with moderation in these days, the control to which we have to agree is rather more than we care for. That control is not always exercised with that judgment which we might expect, and therefore it is not an unmixed blessing in that respect. We have had an example in London in Kingsway and Aldgate and Regent Street, in which the architects have had to submit to a very considerable amount of control, and one cannot conscientiously say that the result has been

general advantage of the public. In conclusion it is with the greatest possible pleasure that I second the vote of thanks which has been so ably proposed from Overseas by our distinguished visitor from the United States.

MR. WILLIAM WOODWARD: Sir Theodore has given us very considerable food for thought, and one of his observations was that advertising is a necessity. I came up here early yesterday and I had an opportunity of meandering round about the city of yours, and I was peculiarly struck by the advertisements on the domestic and business premises of your city. I must say that I think this city of Newcastle, to use a slang expression perhaps, takes the cake for vulgar advertisements in the front of the buildings. Not only are they horizontal and vertical, but they are diagonal as well. I admit that advertising is necessary, but I agree with the lecturer when he says that it is within the province of the architects to so design their buildings, having regard to the fact that their clients must have advertisements and that they can so design buildings that their clients can advertise as they must and should. With regard to uniformity, to which Sir Theodore has referred, Professor Haussman in the Napoleonic days in Paris secured uniformity, because the French designers as a whole, unlike the English men and women, had a particular taste for colour. The Strand is by no means an example of architectural uniformity, but it is a pleasure to look at, and I must confess that I prefer the divergence in style in the Strand to that of some of the thoroughfares where a decided uniformity on lines of horizontal cornices obtains. Take the case of Regent Street; Nash designed the Quadrant and secured uniformity. In conclusion, may I say what a great pleasure it has been to me to visit your really fine city. You cannot help it being black. If you cleaned it to-morrow it would be black again very soon; but all the same Newcastle is a city worthy of our greatest admiration, and, above all, the room we are now in and the surrounding rooms form one of the architectural beauties of the country. I have much pleasure in supporting the vote of thanks.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD: I feel that I must rise to say a few words with regard to a subject which has been touched upon by Sir Theodore, and that is town planning.

Curiously enough, I have attended two addresses by eminent speakers this week, and they set out to discuss the question relating to architecture, and both of them seemed to have resolved themselves into considering the question of the decoration of a city. There is the general question of traffic control—a question which we shall not solve to-day, though we shall in a few years. We have, of course, great examples of traffic control. Kingsway, to my mind, is well controlled, and in all cases control by the local authority, elected by the people, should be responsible, and in that way I think a very helpful result could be achieved. We have yet to work out our own salvation, not by wrestling with impossibilities, but with a new sort of control which will support the local authorities in their efforts to regulate matters in regard to town planning. Let me point out that we have real power to-day; it is perhaps not generally known that under the Towns Planning Act we have absolute control over the height of the building and, most important of all, the character of the building, and there is no definition as to what character is. They can have control over the elevation, and if necessary under the Act this matter of elevation can be submitted to the local authority, and it can also be referred to the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects if necessary. I think the Royal Institute has been a little remiss in not seeing that certain clauses were incorporated in the Act. This question of control and character should be developed, and their great care should be that it was exercised with the care and responsibility which it involved.

Major HARRY BARNES: There is always before us the controversy between uniformity and variety and between the imposition upon us by some superior person or body of their artistic conception spread over a very considerable area of land and buildings and the treatment of all the separate parts by individuals who are designers and build according to their particular taste. I suppose we always have had difficulties in imposing upon the citizens of this country any sort of a cut-and-dried plan of building. As long as we go on selling parcels of land to separate individuals and lay upon them the burden of their own buildings they want to have their say in the kind of building put up and the design of it so as to fit in with their own particular wishes or their own particular fads. In London you come across places where streets are designed from end to end by one man, and if it is well done it is quite all right. You may go to some other place and come across a meandering, winding, mediæval street and at every turn you get a view which you never expected to see, and you say: "How beautiful! Cannot we have more of this?" I am, therefore, not very hopeful that we are going to see any great advance in the direction of uniformity for a very long time. With regard to the question of advertising on buildings, the difficulty there is not only as regards new buildings but as regards old buildings—buildings which had been designed without any thought of advertisement. If one is dealing with a new building you can see that you get a good building with a natural advertising space on it, and it would not be a bad idea if the Institute were to seek for some lines of that sort. It would lead to the obliteration of windows perhaps and of architectural features. One can see that some very artistic results might possibly come out of it. All art must be for all time dependent to a large extent upon the taste of the community. I join most heartily in the vote of thanks to Sir Theodore for having brought to our notice such very important and interesting questions.

Mr. T. R. MILBURN: I should like to add my meed of thanks to Sir Theodore for the admirable and instructive address which he has given us. He has referred to some matters which have been exercising our minds for a long time. With regard to the question of advertising I quite approve of what he says, and I think it is a good suggestion that our new buildings should be so designed in order to provide space for advertisements without disfiguring their architectural features, and a great deal can be done in the way of uniformity.

Mr. HARVEY CORBETT: May I, Mr. President, say one

more word on the question of advertising? I may give you one of two experiences or facts in connection with that phase or the thing in New York. We have found that on Fifth Avenue the local Association of Merchants and Property Owners have agreed among themselves not to deface their buildings by electric signs. It seems to me that is a method by which you could solve a problem which Sir Theodore Morison has outlined. On Broadway, however, the merchants have all agreed that they will go the limit in electrical illumination, and in this connection I will call particular attention to a Londoner who had been shown one of these tremendous electrical signs on Broadway covering the whole of the building and, of course, involving a large expenditure of money every minute of its operation. The American was bragging about his signs—we all do that—and pointing out what a wonderful thing it was, how much it cost, how many lights it contained, and finally, when he paused for breath, the Englishman said, "I see, but is it not horribly conspicuous?" A good many of our successful buildings have been made possible because the architect has persuaded the owner that good architecture pays. They are dealt with on a commercial basis, this being a commercial age, and they approach him on the basis that something good to look at is the best advertisement in the world, and I believe that if the architects will take that point of view a great deal can be done towards improving the standard of our street architecture.

Mr. McWILLIAMS: I speak with all humility coming as I do from a very distant part of the British Empire—South Africa; and a person coming from a land like South Africa to a country like this is struck at once by the dreadful monotony of the largest cities of your land because of the smuts and the smoke and the terrible blackness. If something could be done to persuade the authorities to electrify the railways and to lay out the cities with the smoky parts at some distance, and to introduce central heating into the larger houses—at present all your houses are simply chimneys—there might be a possibility of cleaner towns and better health conditions. Take the Strand for instance. You have in one place a red brick building, next door to it a terra cotta building, and then beyond that a white terra cotta building, and still something else of a different colour. There is possibly a building erected in stone, and in a few years' time the terra cotta building will retain some of its colour, but a stone building will be jet black. Could not something be done to keep your towns and cities a little cleaner? I have toured a good deal around England, and I intend to do a good deal more; but there is one thing which has appalled me in going through the lovely villages of Kent and Surrey and in the North, and that is the character of their shops and their shop windows. I noticed that in some of the villages there seemed to be a fashion created of painting the spaces between the half-timbering with a ghastly sky blue in some instances, and in other instances a horrible sort of magenta pink, and if that sort of thing is going to spread I do not know what is going to become of the charm of the English villages, and I suggest that something should be done by your Institute to try and stop this sort of thing, because once it begins it may run riot. I am told that it is impossible to interfere with anyone's private interests in England. I thank you for giving me this opportunity of addressing you this morning, and with all sincerity I endorse the vote of thanks to Sir Theodore Morison.

THE PRESIDENT: Before I put the vote of thanks to the Conference, I should like to say how very much I have personally enjoyed Sir Theodore's address. It has covered tremendous ground, and you have seen by the discussion which has followed how many topics of importance and interest it touched upon, and it may be that at some other time, with fuller opportunities, there may be further discussions of an interesting and instructive nature on the point which Sir Theodore has raised and which may inventuate in the ultimate advantage and benefit of the Institute itself and of the profession. With reference to what has been said by Professor Adshead, I always understood that the Town Planning Act was not obligatory and that

it was left to localities whether they adopted it or not, and that is one of the main reasons why all over England to-day we see houses which are not uniform in construction or appearance, but which are left to the individual tastes of the owners. If you go through the country you will find numerous cases where the owners are allowed to put up anything they like. Our friend from South Africa has referred to our country villages and towns and to what he very rightly considered spoiled them from the point of view of beauty and interest. Going through the country, as I often do, one of the saddest sights I see is the vision of a village shop window, dressed in a more or less modern style, displaying a bewildering array of miscellaneous articles



*Alfred C. Bossom.
Architect.*

MAPLE TERRACE APARTMENTS. ALFRED C. BOSSOM,
Architect.

instead of showing, as they used to do, just a few, and in the olden days one was attracted by the village shop and its modest display, whereas now one abhors it. I am perfectly certain that the village shop does not get any more custom by its elaborate display than it did when the display was more modest; in fact, I am sure that the old system was far the better. With regard to advertisements in our cities, I think that is a matter which the Institute might endeavour to do something for us. It is really deplorable that a nicely-designed building should be used simply as a background for advertisement. Take the Strand in London, for instance. You have good buildings there, such as the Tivoli Cinema, and that is quite a dignified stone building. The proprietors have placed upon that a huge

metal construction without any regard to the beauty of the building behind it, and it is absolutely spoiling the building entirely. Some control over this sort of thing would be greatly to the advantage of us all. There is really no need for this class of advertisement at all, and if we all agreed not to have them just as much business would be done. In the old-fashioned shops if you saw one article displayed upon a piece of white paper, such as a piece of china, for instance, you would cross the road to look at it, and possibly to purchase it; but if you saw that old-fashioned window crowded with a miscellany of articles you would not trouble even to look at it. With regard to the question of the lights at night, could anything possibly be worse than Piccadilly by night? It is the most hideous and vulgar place it is possible to imagine. It has been called quite rightly "the Scotsman's cinema." But without question there is no more vulgar place than Piccadilly by night. I have now the greatest pleasure in putting to this Conference the vote of thanks which has been so ably proposed, seconded and supported to Sir Theodore Morison for his very valuable paper, containing as it does so many matters of interest to all of us as members of a great profession.

The vote of thanks was carried with loud and continued applause, and acknowledging the compliment

Sir THEODORE MORISON said: Please accept my most grateful thanks for the vote which you have accorded me, and may I say how very much interested and instructed I have been by the discussion which it has elucidated. The contribution which I should have made to the discussion was so admirably put by Mr. Harvey Corbett that I do not think I need say anything at all after what he has said. I am glad to hear him make that extremely important point that the success which has been attained in certain parts of America—in Fifth Avenue, New York—is due to the co-operation of the different shopowners there. It is to the common action on the part of owners of property in our shopping quarters that I look to rather more than to municipal or national control. What I should like to stress and submit again to your consideration is that you should directly approach the owners of shop property and induce them to take the enlightened action which has been taken in Fifth Avenue. What would help much more than any parliamentary or municipal control is the creation of the taste for architectural tradition which did exist in certain years, and to which we attribute all the most interesting features of architecture. I could wish that Mr. Harvey Corbett could have told us a little more, because we are all conscious of the great contribution which American architects are making at the present moment, and I should have been glad to have had him criticising quite frankly what he has seen in this country and so enable us to profit by the magnificence of the experiments which are being made in America. We all of us feel that a great opportunity has been given to the architects in America by the princely munificence with which various private citizens of America have dispensed their wealth. They are endowing universities, public buildings and libraries, so that the American architects have the opportunity of making experiments in that country which we here in England sigh for in vain, but we must recognise that the American architects are making a really magnificent use of that opportunity, and we should be grateful indeed if we could hear from Mr. Harvey Corbett what they are doing.

At the monthly meeting of the Incorporated Society of Auctioneers and Landed Property Agents (42 Finsbury Square, E.C.2) on July 10, Capt. E. K. House (Estates Manager, Messrs. W. Whiteley, Ltd.), presiding; the Council of the Society confirmed the appointment of Captain John Stevenson, Barrister-at-Law, as General Secretary, vice Mr. Methuen A. Fluder, appointed Registrar. There were over 400 applications for the post.

WEYMOUTH.—The Corporation have decided to consider a scheme for the provision of public baths.—Mr. E. G. Elkins, on behalf of the Weymouth Co-operative Society, has prepared plans for the erection of central premises in Westham and Commercial Roads.

The Conference Banquet took place at the Old Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-on-Tyne on Friday evening, under the Presidency of Mr. E. Guy Dawber, F.S.A., President of the Royal Institute of British Architects. The company was a distinguished and thoroughly representative one, comprising as it did men eminent in all the professions and in civic and municipal life. Supporting the President were the Lord Mayor of Newcastle and the Lady Mayoress; Sir George Renwick, Lt.-Col. George Reavell, Canon H. Ellershaw, Mr. T. R. Milburn, Vice-President, R.I.B.A.; Mr. Cecil A. Cochrane, Chairman Armstrong College; Mr. John Keppie, President Incorporation of Architects in Scotland; the Mayors of Durham, Hartlepool, South Shields and Jarrow; the Sheriff of Newcastle, Mr. R. C. Bosanquet; Mr. Arthur Keen, Vice-President, R.I.B.A.; Mr. Robert Temperley; Professor A. Robinson, Master of Hatfield College, Durham; Mr. J. Inch Morrison, President, Edinburgh Architectural Association; Mr. Ian MacAlister, Secretary of the Institute; Mr. W. T. Jones, F.S.A.; Mr. Charles F. Ward, President, South Wales Institute of Architects; Mr. H. Alderman Dickman, President, Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society; Mr. Percy Thomas; Mr. G. Dale Oliver, Chairman, Cumberland Branch, Northern Architectural Association; Mr. T. W. T. Richardson, Chairman, Tees-side Branch, N.A.A.; Professor C. H. Reilly, Liverpool University; Professor S. D. Adshead; Mr. R. Norman Mackellar; and many others.

At the conclusion of the banquet a toast list was negotiated, the loyal and patriotic toasts being given by the President and enthusiastically honoured.

THE LORD MAYOR OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (Mr. Walter Lee, J.P.): Mr. President, Mrs. Dawber, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the pleasure of proposing the toast of "The Royal Institute of British Architects and its Allied Societies."

I fully appreciate the importance of the toast which I have the honour of submitting. The Institute of British Architects was, I understand, founded in the year 1834, and was incorporated by Royal Charter by William IV. in 1837. On August 8 of the same year Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria became a Patron of the Institute and took a great interest in its welfare. Ample evidence of Royal favour was shown by the foundation by Queen Victoria in 1848 of the Royal Gold Medal, which has since been annually conferred by our reigning Sovereign on some distinguished architect or man of science or letters associated with architecture, on the recommendation of the Institute.

On May 18, 1866, the title of the Institute was altered by Royal Command to the Royal Institute of British Architects, an honour of which the Institute has proved itself in every way worthy.

His Majesty King Edward VII from the year 1863 to the time of his death in 1910 continued the presentation of the Annual Gold Medal; and his present Majesty King George V. since his accession to the throne has continued the Royal interest in the welfare of the Institute.

The Institute is the representative body of architects in this country and the parent body of the Architectural Societies of the whole Empire. The societies affiliated to the Institute in these islands number, with their several branches, not less than 37, whilst the Allied Societies Overseas, in Africa, Australasia, Canada, India, and elsewhere, number 22. This great confederation of architectural societies embraces more than 10,000 professional men, and exercises a powerful influence on the development of architecture throughout the whole Empire. It controls or guides the whole system of architectural education, and its services in an advisory capacity are at the disposal of the Government, the great municipal authorities and the public generally, in all matters concerning the art of architecture.

One of the oldest, strongest and most energetic of the allied societies is the Northern Architectural Association, which so kindly undertook the organisation of the British Architects' Conference this year. The Northern Architectural Association was founded in the year 1858 and became an allied society of the Royal Institute of British Architects

in the year 1889. It contains about 250 members, divided into Tyneside, Tees-side and Cumberland branches. It is playing an ever-increasingly important part in the work of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Among local gentlemen who have held the position of President of the Northern Architectural Association are Colonel Reavell, of Alnwick; Mr. W. J. Jones, of Durham; Mr. T. R. Milburn, of Sunderland; Mr. R. Burns Dick, of Newcastle; Mr. G. S. Errington, and Mr. J. T. Cackett, who has also for many years filled the office of Honorary Treasurer. Mr. T. R. Milburn, to whom I have just referred as one of the Past-Presidents, has, we are glad to know, just been elected a Vice-President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, after years of valuable services on its Council.

Members of the Conference, and particularly those from a distance, will have been much struck by the architectural beauty of some of our streets.

I might be permitted to make a passing reference to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Society, which is a body of energetic and enterprising local gentlemen who, as a labour of love, are making a close study of a possible Newcastle beautiful, and in this connection I may say that we, as a City Council, are always prepared to receive their friendly criticism and suggestions. I would just like to say that we, as a local body, always welcome friendly criticism that is given in the right spirit, and I know that these gentlemen have taken a very great interest in the development of Newcastle. I remember Newcastle for almost a quarter of a century. I have seen many mistakes made, and I know that the Council feel very grateful for the manner in which the Newcastle Society have taken up this question and put before us practical schemes of town planning which many businessmen and commercial men feel that it is the proper principle to adopt in the interests of the ratepayers. We certainly feel that an understanding between gentlemen who have the interests of the city at heart with the professional experience that is so desirable will lead to great achievements from working together in those interests. We have had Newcastle men associated with your profession whose reputations have spread far and wide. There are big schemes for street improvements under the consideration of the City Council, and it is just possible that such opportunities may shortly be forthcoming for the display of architectural genius that there may yet arise another Dobson and another Grainger who will add lustre to the history of the architectural profession in this city. It is with very great pleasure indeed that I submit to you the toast of "The Royal Institute of British Architects and its Allied Societies," and I couple with the toast the names of Mr. Guy Dawber and the other gentlemen mentioned on the toast list. Personally, and on your behalf, I wish that Mr. Dawber's year of office may be a great success, and I am sure that he will be a great acquisition to the Society.

THE PRESIDENT (Mr. E. Guy Dawber): My Lord Mayor, on behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects and its Allied Societies present to-night, I thank you very much for the kind words you have spoken of the work that we are doing. The Conference that has just finished, or practically finished, I think I may safely say has been one of the most successful we have had. It gives us an opportunity of meeting old friends and making new ones, of visiting, under the most favourable auspices, such as we have had to-day, buildings of the deepest historical interest, and also of talking over with our fellow architects the problems that we have to deal with every day. And that really, as well as hearing papers of deep interest to the profession, is the object of these annual Conferences.

Well, sir, as usual, the proposer of the toast takes all the wind out of the sails of the one who has to respond. I wanted to tell the Lord Mayor about the Royal Institute of British Architects, but as a matter of fact he knows far more about it, especially about the dates of things, than I do myself. I have a very shrewd suspicion that my friend on the left here has been prompting him, most unfairly to me. But, sir, though you have told us a lot about the

Institute, there are one or two things you have not mentioned. One is that during the last 25 or 30 years we have established and co-ordinated a system of education such as in my young days was absolutely unheard of. All through the country now we have a series of Schools of Architecture. We are training our young men in design, in construction, and in the practice of architecture, and they are getting an education such as was absolutely unheard of 30 or 40 years ago. I think, sir, that that is a record to be proud of, and I want to say in this room that it has been through the help and enthusiasm of the Allied Societies that the parent body has been able to help with those schemes of education of architects throughout the country.

Well, sir, in addition to that, some 30 or 40 years ago, when I first came to London, the Royal Institute of British Architects consisted entirely of London men, allied with some country members, but in those days they had little voice in the control and management of the affairs of the Institute. How different it is to-day! We have nearly sixty Allied Societies connected with the Institute. We are one great federation of architects all over the Kingdom and wherever the British flag flies; and our one object, I may safely say, in the words of our Charter, is "the encouragement of Civic Architecture." That, sir, is really what we are out for, and we do feel that in that connection the Allied Societies are the greatest possible help and strength to us as an Institute.

My Lord Mayor, you have a very great responsibility put upon your shoulders. To control the amenities of a great city like Newcastle-upon-Tyne is no light matter, with your many other spheres of work; but it is to you and the other heads of the great Corporations all over this country that we look to help with the future planning, laying out wide spaces and beautifying our streets which we hope is going to make an entire alteration in the future of our towns and cities throughout this country.

There is no doubt, sir, you and others are waking up to the great responsibilities that have been placed upon you, and I may safely say that we architects, and the Royal Institute in particular, are only too pleased to place our services at your disposal at any time you wish to call us in.

This is not a time for long speeches, and my two friends, Mr. Keppie, of the Incorporated Architects of Scotland, and Lieut.-Colonel Reavell, are going to reply for their respective Societies; but before I sit down I should like, on behalf of the Institute, to convey our deepest gratitude to Colonel Reavell and his Society for the delightful programme they have prepared for us. He told me just now that he had practically nothing to do with it; he left it all to his committees, who simply did everything for him; but I am sure that cannot be the case, because I have only been in office some two or three days and I find that my friend, Mr. MacAlister, is already appealing to me about certain things I have to do. I am perfectly sure Colonel Reavell, in the arrangement of a Conference like this, would not be left out of it.

Well, my Lord Mayor, I have nothing more to say, except to thank you extremely for the way you have proposed this toast, and also for the very kind reception you gave to us last night; and may I, sir, on behalf of all the architect members in this room, congratulate the City of Newcastle upon having such a delightful room in which to have this banquet.

Mr. JOHN KEPPIE: Mr. Chairman, my Lord Provost, Ladies and Gentlemen, I think the first remark I have to make is that Mr. Guy Dawber has dealt with this so exhaustively that it seems almost a kind of superimposed thing that anybody else should speak. It reminds me of a somewhat similar occasion when two gentlemen had to reply to a toast. The first gentleman, like Mr. Guy Dawber, dealt with it very exhaustively, and when the other got up he said, "That will be for two."

Well, being a member of the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects, I do not think that Mr. Dawber would let me off with that kind of thing, so that I have to attempt something—I would not like to say add to what he has said, but to tell you, perhaps, another point of view.

I must say that the Lord Mayor showed an intimate

knowledge of the affairs of the Royal Institute of British Architects that I do not think any member of the Council can for a moment pretend to. Of course, he showed the source from which it came, and I must say that I almost entirely agree with him, except that I know that Mr. MacAlister always denies the kind things that he does.

I think the members of the Royal Institute of British Architects ought to be very proud indeed to be entertained by the Northern Association in such a town as Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Our little affairs hardly count when you consider that point. But I took a little trouble, when MacAlister, the ubiquitous, wrote to me to say that I had to reply to this toast, and I discovered that Newcastle-upon-Tyne is a town with a most remarkable record. In fact, I do not know that there are many towns in Britain that have such a fine record, principally on account of the distinction of the men, and the women, who have made Newcastle.

The speaker gave some interesting facts about the lives of Lord Eldon, Lord Collingwood, of Trafalgar fame, Mark Akenside, the poet, and the Stephensons, father and son; the list also included Thomas Belt, the naturalist, Joseph Crawhall, artist. In closing, Mr. Keppie remarked that the only other man I would like to mention is one of your incomers, and that is Norman MacKellar. I am very proud to mention him, because he is a Glasgow boy, and he is an organiser. He is now, I believe, a partner with one of the best firms in Newcastle, and I think they showed great discrimination in taking him in. However, I do not want to boost Norman MacKellar. I do want just to say that I have been at a great many functions, and I have never been at one that has been better organised. In fact, MacKellar has been everything, and as a fellow citizen I would feel rather neglectful if I did not say how much I appreciated his kindness and his attention to the Royal Institute at this Conference.

Lt.-Col. G. T. REAVELL: My Lord Mayor, my Lady Mayoress, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me first get off my mind the thanks I owe to you for your kind expressions of thanks for anything which has been done by the Northern Architectural Association, and I was not chaffing a bit when I told the President that really my work had been a bed of roses and that it was really done by the members of the Committee. It would be invidious to mention any names where all have done so splendidly, but I must say that we all owe a very great debt of gratitude to Mr. MacKellar. Now, ladies and gentlemen, we as architects practise an art which has for us great responsibilities and great anxieties, but at the same time great opportunities which bring great rewards. There is the satisfaction of achievement and of creation, of seeing in brick and stone the embodiment of our idea, and while with our limited powers we cannot with the Great Architect of the Universe look round and say "Behold it is very good," we do sometimes have the joy of knowing that we have done a fairly good thing, and the generosity to acknowledge that our brethren have done a better one. Times have changed since the days when men like Da Vinci could be architect, builder, sculptor, engineer, and painter all in one, and buildings have become so complexed that our versatility must in another way be as diverse as ever, and we do well if by skilful handling of a team we accomplish what the great masters achieved single handed. No art can flourish except in a genial air, and we hope for the day in this democratic country when every citizen will take the same interest in the mistress art as did the noblemen of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, who would have been more ashamed of ignorance of the principle of architecture than that of the rules of grammar, and we trust that the presence of so many lay guests to-night augurs well for that. In this connection I am reminded that I am also speaking for the Allied Societies. The Institute has found, as the British race found, that freely yet firmly knit by the bonds of love rather than by those of red tape, the genius of our people best works out its destinies, and not only from Lands End to Cape Wrath, but through the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown, the daughters and the parent Institute exchange counsel and

help. I may perhaps give you a recent example in our midst which is interesting. I do not think the invitation from the Government of this great city to the Northern Architectural Association to nominate members to work with it in the development in the towns would have been extended to a body sitting in London. Your city has been the first, following the example of our American friends, to invite architects to co-operate in the improvement of your great city. Resulting from this co-operation a scheme was evolved which provided a new thoroughfare, obviating in the most economical way the congestion which was certain otherwise to ensue, and would eventually add to the material resources and the æsthetic value of the city in a striking and far-sighted manner. Although that scheme has suffered a check it is a check arising not from a divided opinion on its merits, but from an honest difference of opinion on a matter of policy, and I feel confident that it will be carried to a worthy conclusion. No city that has looked its future in the face has regretted it. Paris has regained over and over again in cash value alone the expenditure incurred by Napoleon and Baron Haussman, and I ask you if for one moment London would exchange Kingsway for the congeries of mean streets it has swept away? We, my Lord Mayor, as a profession compliment your great city on its wise action and we look forward to its success. On behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Allied Societies, I thank you, my Lord Mayor, for the way in which you have introduced the toast.

Mr. T. R. MILBURN: Mr. President, My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, a friend on my right says it is the easiest thing in the world to propose the toast of "Our Guests," and that all you have to do is to get up and everyone will be waiting to respond to it so that you can sit down. I have a little more to say than that, and I want to say this, that we are very pleased to see among our guests to-night the Lord Mayor and Sheriff of Newcastle and the Mayors and Sheriffs of adjoining cities and towns. We also have with us the Master of Durham Castle, Canon Ellershaw is also with us, and we have the chairman and vice-chairman of the Armstrong College, and also prominent members of the Bar and the sister profession of Law, together with engineers and surveyors representing kindred professions. They are all more or less interested in architectural problems, and it is indeed a very great pleasure to us to see them at our banquet to-night. Certainly I must not forget to mention how delighted we are to see our lady guests; it would be a very poor show here to-night if it were not for the fact that we are backed up by our lady guests. Then we have visitors from overseas, from Australia from America and from South Africa, though we do not look upon them so much as guests as members. I am glad also to welcome on behalf of the Institute the civic heads of surrounding municipalities who have honoured us with their presence this evening. We also welcome the chairman of Armstrong College, being as we are as architects, particularly in the North, closely connected with Armstrong College. My friend, Mr. John Keppie, has mentioned some well-known names, but I cannot excuse him from leaving out the names of Dobson and Grainger in connection with architecture, and our moderns such as Parsons and Armstrong. We all remember these names as being very closely associated with the progress of industry in the North, and more particularly in connection with Newcastle. I couple with the toast the names of Major Temperley, and I need not tell you the enormous interest he has taken in the making of the "City Beautiful." You cannot pass an hour in his company without he will bring up the question of the "City Beautiful," and he has done marvellous work in Newcastle and he is also willing to do more in connection with our neighbouring towns. I also couple with the toast the name of Mr. Bosanquet, who is also an honoured guest to-night and one whose name and reputation we honour.

Major ROBERT TEMPERLEY: Mr. President, My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a very lovely room, but the acoustics are not too good, and I did not hear all that Mr. Milburn said, but I understood him to say that the proposing of the health of the guests was a very easy

matter. If so, I am bound to say that responding to it is not in any way an easy matter, especially when one finds himself not a soloist but a party in a duet. My part, however, is made more easy because Mr. Bosanquet is a very distinguished authority on Roman architecture, and I thought perhaps he might be telling you something about Roman walls, and for my part, I being chairman of the Newcastle Society, you might perhaps expect me to tell you something about the future of Newcastle, whether after the visit of Mr. Harvey Corbett we might put up a Bush building in Market Street. There is one subject, however, on which Mr. Bosanquet and myself will be in perfect accord and that is in the expression of our great gratitude to you and your brother architects for your very kind welcome to us to-night, so eloquently expressed, I have no doubt, by Mr. Milburn—though I did not hear it—and also for your delightful and splendid hospitality, which I rejoice to think takes place in these beautiful rooms designed no doubt by some unknown architect at the end of the eighteenth century and restored after the devastations of war by some local architect whom I do not know. I think you must all be very grateful to the local architects for having arranged this visit to Newcastle and to the President and other distinguished members of the Royal Institute for having honoured our town by visiting it. I may add one word as chairman of the Newcastle Society, especially as the Lord Mayor has referred to us in such kind terms. On behalf of the Newcastle Society I beg to thank the local architects for the cordial welcome they have given us and for the help they have shown us. The Society started with the object of trying to foster wider interests in this locality, and we are concerned for the beauty of the place, for its historical interests, its general amenities and architecture, and its sound investments. It is rather a big programme, and it may have been regarded perhaps by architects with suspicion and by the Lord Mayor and Corporation with some misgiving. From the architects we have had a most cordial welcome, and I think the Lord Mayor really hit on the best reason of all when he referred to the spirit in which we have embarked on our task as being a spirit, not of fussy interference and the driving of a fad to extremes, but by suggestions which will be helpful, and I think that has been fully recognised by the ex-Lord Mayor and the present Lord Mayor and the members of the Corporation and also by the members of the Northern Architectural Association. Two or three of that Association's members have given us very excellent help, and we could not have done that which we have been able to do but for them. We recognise that there is no need for fuss because the public are ripe for a forward movement with regard to the beauty and completeness of the things that surround us in our daily life, and we find that more especially among the working-class people. I understand there is a great scheme for a great street in Newcastle which will tend to the further development of the city, and though that scheme is checked for the moment I am sure it is a right step to take, and I do not believe for one moment that this present check is anything more than a temporary one. On behalf of the Newcastle Society may I express the hope and belief that this great scheme will eventually be carried through with the support and help of the very people who are now opposing it. I know I have been talking perhaps of a purely local matter, but I hope your visit here and that of your distinguished colleagues will have done something to call attention to the great importance of these things, and that it may bring nearer the achievement of that object which we all long for and desire.

Mr. R. C. BOSANQUET: Mr. President, My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a very great honour which you have done me in asking me to be the spokesman for this very distinguished company. When I received Mr. MacAlister's telephone message in my rather remote home in the country I felt it was not for me to question why, and I will endeavour to do my duty. The gratitude which we feel is, as Major Temperley has so well said, justified by several reasons. We are grateful to you for the good things which you have put before us to-night, the material good things, and the spiritual good things, the enthusiasm and

kindness with which you have drunk our health. Renewed health is tingling in our veins already. Further, we are grateful to the men of your calling for all you have done for the human race since it began to seek a better shelter than a cave on the face of this somewhat uncomfortable earth. I could enlarge on that theme, but time is short. What has rejoiced me very much is to hear from so many speakers to-night references to the city of the future, the "City Beautiful." Last Sunday I happened to be in Oxford, and my host at luncheon was also entertaining an American architect—I wish he were present to-night—and it so happened that we drew from this architect that interesting as were the colleges of Oxford, what he would like to see was the small English house. He said, "My work is domestic work." We visited one of those old-world villages, and our American friend was filled with delight and admiration at its exceeding charm and beauty, and he said to one old inhabitant who was tottering down the village street, "What a beautiful place this is you have to live in." It was a Sunday, and I do not know whether the old man thought that a place should not look beautiful on a Sunday, but he looked shocked and said, "Beautiful? I do not know about beautiful, but it is very old." I expect in that remark you have some indication of the lingering English prejudice which regards beauty as something immoral. Antiquity is quite all right, and that is why the archæologist, in spite of all his sins, moves about the country in comparative safety; but the lot of the man who denounces the ugliness or vulgarity of modern aberrations treads a dangerous and thorny path—the sort of denunciation which I see from the public press has been uttered at some of your meetings—but I am very glad to see how completely unanimous are the opinions of hosts and guests to-night. A good many of us of your guests are concerned with education, and I rejoice very much that you have spoken so warmly of the provincial schools of architecture. We know there are great and flourishing schools of architecture in London. I had the good fortune for some years to see the work which Professor Reilly and Professor Adshead—both with us to-night—and Professor Abercrombie were doing in Liverpool, and similar work is being done in many other great cities. Newcastle, with its University School of Art, is working on similar lines. During the years, some of them rather distant years, when I lived in Athens, there passed through the British school in Athens a succession of young architects, picked men who came there to gain inspiration and material which they could use in their professional life, and I think I can safely say without giving offence that the quality of these men during the long period in which, first as a student at Athens, then as a director, and later as a member of a governing body of the school, I have come across no better quality. The quality has been steadily improving, and these men need not fear comparison with the men sent out, picked men in some cases, by other countries. It would be impossible to speak too highly of the gifted men who come to us from America, fortified as they are by a training in Paris in addition to the splendid training they have had at home. Then there are the men who come to us at Athens from Rome, some of whom are English scholars, and they are second to none. The work of men like Bradshaw is recognised all the world over. I should like to plead for an increase of any facilities for training of that kind. You cannot walk down an English street without seeing a colosse here, a lion's head there, and a piece of ornament on a lamp-post which were derived from the few recorded excavations which were available at the end of the eighteenth century. There is plenty of detail which has come to light in Greece and the more recently excavated cities of Asia Minor, and British architecture has gained a lot from these and from other such discoveries in the cities of Ephesus, Miletus and Piræne, and there are endless suggestions to be made for those engaged in the work. I am afraid I have strayed somewhat from the point, and I return to it to sum up. We are deeply grateful to the members of the Royal Institute of British Architects for the honour they have done us to-night. Some of us have taken part in offering you hospitality; I cannot claim that myself, but I am certain that the people of this district would have

been glad to have done more if they could to welcome you all to this city. They rejoice in the interest you have shown in the buildings and the architectural development of Tyne-side, and your interest has deepened our pride in our neighbourhood, and we are deeply grateful to you for your hospitality and for your interest in our surroundings.

Responding to persistent calls from all parts of the hall for a speech, Mr. HARVEY CORBETT said: I suppose I must say something, but really I feel I do not know exactly what to say under these circumstances. It is a tremendous pleasure to me to be here, and I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed this occasion. Some one credited me as being a guest, but I informed him that I was not a guest but a member. I really came up here to Newcastle to sit in the back row and look on, but you have made that quite impossible for me. I would like to tell you about England and the things I have seen here. When I come over here I have such a wonderful time seeing all these fascinating historical things, but at the same time I have the distressing experience of ignorance, because all of you know so much of your history. I was very poor at history when I was in school; I spent my time in drawing pictures on my slate instead of learning the names of English kings, and I wish I had studied more so that I could better understand all you say about your buildings. I am not going to attempt to say anything about England. I have discovered from some experience of speaking that it is good to talk about something you know something about, and if I have anything to say at all I shall have to talk about America. I have been greatly interested in the discussions which we have listened to at this Conference, the general question which is interesting us so much in the matter of town planning and the general improvement of our cities, and I would like to point out one or two developments which have occurred in the United States which might be of interest to the Institute here. The first thing that suggests itself to me is that the working architect is more recognised as a professional man than he used to be. Perhaps I am touching on a delicate subject in the matter of registration, but in the United States the architect is rapidly becoming a professional man of exactly the same legal standing as a doctor or a lawyer. In New York State it is required that each man shall qualify by means of a very rigid examination before he is permitted to use the word "Architect." The result is that the profession has advanced to a remarkable degree. Then we have recently created in many of our cities and in some of our States what we call Fine Art Commissions, who have certain powers and jurisdiction over everything on which a State or city spends money. That means that we do not create from State or city funds some of the monumental monstrosities that we have created in the past, because the Commission has the power of a veto and thus helps the designer to do better things. I am pointing out these things to you simply to show that there is a spirit of quite hearty co-operation between the profession and the public at large, and a growing interest on the part of the public in architectural matters and in the beautification of our cities, and I am glad indeed to see that the same spirit is being shown here. In saying that I do not mean to say that I should not expect to find it here, but it is only recently that the public in general have taken this active interest in architectural matters, and if you are to accomplish anything along these lines it must be through the interest and co-operation of the public at large. I think our duty as a profession, both here and in America and in other countries, is to bring the public up to the standard that we set and which we would like them to follow. Mr. President, I thank you very much for giving me this chance of saying a few words. I wish I could tell you how grateful I am and how much I have enjoyed this visit. Mrs. Corbett and I have had a perfectly delightful time; we feel perfectly at home, and every summer when the time comes round for our holiday we think perhaps we should visit another country, but when the time comes we never fail to start over here to England.

This concluded the toast list, and the eventful proceedings terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the "National Anthem."

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Libel Action by Architects.

On Wednesday, July 8, in the King's Bench Division, the Lord Chief Justice heard the settlement of an action for damages for libel brought by two Hastings architects, Messrs. Hugh Townshend Morgan and Charles Cowles-Voysey. The defendants to the proceedings were the Southern Publishing Co., Ltd., who print and publish the "Evening Argus," which circulates in Brighton, Hastings and other South Coast resorts, and Mr. James M. Glover, the well-known musical conductor and a member of the Hastings Borough Council.

Appearing for the plaintiffs Sir Henry Slessor, K.C., said he was with Mr. Rew Castle, and he was happy to say that the action had been settled in a way that was satisfactory to all parties. Plaintiffs were professional men of excellent reputation and undoubted skill as architects. They had been engaged, after open competition, by the Hastings Corporation to superintend the erection of the Music Pavilion for the Hastings Corporation after their plans had been submitted. Mr. James Glover was a musical conductor of some eminence. It was admitted that, for a music pavilion, the acoustic properties should be of the best that science could produce, and recognising this the plaintiffs obtained the assistance of experts both from that point of view and from the point of view of heating and ventilation. At the time of the matter complained of things had not progressed further than the plans. Mr. Glover, for some reason, wrote the following letter to the defendants' newspaper, the "Evening Argus."

"As the inventor of the suggestion that the new Borough Surveyor might be consulted before another penny is wasted on Alderman Cox's preposterous, extravagant, and never-to-pay Pavilion scheme I should like to say a little more.

"When the building starts, it is the new Surveyor who will be asked for guidance, and to pass and advise the payment of all the accounts. He is the referee of our finance; he is the only person to whom we can look for any possible sort of redress. The Pavilion has been, rightly or wrongly, designed by two clever young men who, with the knowledge that it was a concert pavilion where people had to hear music in the first instance, forgot that it was necessary for anyone to hear in it; they only called in an acoustic expert when a strong protest was made by me.

"When I first raised this point Alderman Cox stood up and said 'The acoustics have been certified by the late Mr. Julian Clifford and Mr. P. H. Palmer.' There is no musician on earth who can tell from plans how an acoustic effect can be produced. Even an architect can only surmise and do his best with the education that is in him, but here, in this case, Alderman Cox having stood up and asserted that everything in the Winter Garden was lovely, came a few weeks later and asked us to engage an acoustic expert.

"This is bad enough, yet, from that day to this, I have not raised a word. I even went to the inquiry and gave evidence as to the necessity of the Pavilion. But what turns up now is that, having accepted plans where, whether through carelessness or ignorancy, no provision had been made for fifteen hundred people to hear whatever went on therein, we actually have it admitted that to save the fifteen hundred people from being frozen to death in the winter and stifled to death in the summer, another thousand pounds is wanted for heating and ventilation. An attempt being made, as Councillor Morgan stated, to 'hustle' this through at £1,000, it was shown that only £650 would be required so that another £350 was to go over the top as bluff. Were not these three points (a) acoustics, (b) ventilation, (c) heating considered by the celebrated professors who advised us to have this design?

"In a like manner, having practically scrapped the Entertainments Committee to get the real truth of the programme difficulty, we ought now to get an independent Chairman with a strong sub-committee and do the thing properly. Otherwise, we will have trouble.

"Yours, etc.,

"J. M. GLOVER.

"Hastings, 17th October, 1924."

Sir Henry said he did not object to the plaintiffs being called "young men," but the letter cast serious aspersions upon their skill and reputation. However, the defendants had recognised that they could not support allegations such as those, and had fully apologised, withdrawing the suggestions without reservation. That apology ran as follows: "We desire, without reservation, to express our sincere regret at having published of the plaintiffs the words complained of and contained in the letter that appeared in the 'Evening Argus' of 18th October last. The aspersions cast upon the plaintiffs have no foundation in fact, and we fully recognise that they should not have been made. There has never existed any ground for complaint against the plaintiffs either with regard to their professional skill or with re-

gard to the care and attention which has been given by them to the work on which they were engaged by the Hastings Borough Council, and we ought never to have been a party to any suggestion to the contrary effect, and desire to withdraw wholly from it. It is quite untrue to say that the plaintiffs in any way fell short of their duty with regard to the acoustics of the Music Pavilion or with regard to the heating and ventilation of the building, or that they were in any way subjected to pressure with regard thereto. We now, as a result of investigation, know and are glad frankly to admit it in every respect, the reverse was the case, and the plaintiffs, of their own accord and animated by the highest regard for the interests of the borough, not only amply fulfilled their professional duty, but at their own expense and upon their own initiative, went far beyond what could in any way have been required of them, and obtained expert advice upon those matters which will be of the greatest benefit to the public. We are satisfied that the apology should be ample and as full as we can make it, and we can only hope that the plaintiffs will accept it in that spirit and that neither any professional injury to them nor any tone of bitterness in their relations with Hastings will remain." Sir Henry said the plaintiffs did accept the apology, and as far as they were concerned the matter was concluded.

Mr. Charles Doughty, K.C. (for the defendants), echoed the apology, and said that certain terms had been arranged, with which the plaintiffs, he thought, could not take exception.

His Lordship, assenting to the settlement, said the record could be withdrawn.

University Intelligence.

The following awards have been made in the Bartlett School of Architecture at University College:—

Bartlett Entrance Exhibitions: Edna M. L. Mills, Brighton and Hove High School; Harold F. Hoar, Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith.

Herbert Batsford Prize (First Year Classes): E. Somaké.

Certificates in Architecture: F. S. Bardell, G. R. Cochrane, Margaret A. de Quincy, H. T. Dyer, L. P. Ellicott, E. Forster, Jessie M. Greig, H. Kendall, D. H. Mirams, C. G. Weald.

Sub-Department of Town Planning: Lever Prizes—First, C. D. J. Benton; second—L. M. Chitale and S. L. G. Beaufoy (equal). Certificated in Town Planning: S. L. G. Beaufoy, A. J. E. Benton, C. D. J. Benton, L. M. Chitale, Gertrude W. M. Leverkus, B. A. Moss.

Competition News.

GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT. RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MOSQUE OF AMROU.

OPEN COMPETITION.

Competitive designs for the rebuilding of this mosque are called for by the Ministry of Wakfs. Prizes of £2,500, £1,000 and £500 are offered for approved projects. Those wishing to submit designs should apply before June 30, 1926, to H.E. the Under-Secretary of State to the Ministry of Wakfs, Cairo (Cables, "Wakfs Cairo"), who will forward details, conditions, etc. The final date for acceptance of proposals is January 1, 1927.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—We think it may be of interest to your readers to know that we have to-day issued a writ on behalf of our clients, Messrs. Higgs & Hill, Limited, against certain officials and members of the London Master Builders' Association. This writ institutes an action whereby our clients seek to recover damages from the defendants for libel in respect of matter contained in certain circulars, letters and the like, published by or on behalf of the London Master Builders' Association in connection with the question of the payment of standard rate of wages.—Yours truly,

BULL & BULL.

3 Stone Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn,
London, W.C.2.
July 10, 1925.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD.—The Central London Building Co., Ltd., are to erect large blocks of flats on a site abutting upon St. John's Wood Road, Maida Vale, Aberdeen Place and Northwick Terrace, St. John's Wood.

SURREY.—Surrey Education Committee are approaching the authorities of East and West Sussex and Kent to see if they will co-operate in the provision of a residential special school for mentally defective children.

REINFORCED CONCRETE ENGINEERS

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General News.

BATLEY.—The governors of the Batley technical school have prepared amended plans for the extension scheme.

BRAINTREE.—Essex County Council are arranging for the purchase of the old county court at Braintree for conversion into a clinic.

BRAITHWELL.—West Riding Education Committee have purchased a site at Braithwell Manor, Rotherham, for the erection of an elementary school.

BEDFORD.—The Elstow Road school site is to be fenced at a cost of £730.—East Lodge is to be purchased for £2,250 and converted at a cost of £500 into a special school for defectives.—Plans passed: new premises for Bedford Co-operative Society, Queen's Park, for Mr. W. E. G. Hull; alterations, 86 and 88 High Street, for Mr. G. P. Allen; additions, cemetery lodge entrance, Bedford Burial Board, for Messrs. Usher & Anthony.

CARLISLE.—The Health Committee are considering a site at Mossband, for the erection of a fever hospital.—A site at Rome Street is to be purchased for £2,700 for the erection of a gasholder.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Brampton Road, for Messrs. Benwell & Slack, architects; 6 houses, Scotland Road, for Messrs. Benwell & Slack; extension to bakehouse, Caldewgate, for Mr. H. E. Scarborough, architect.

CASTLEFORD.—A site at Castleford has been purchased by the West Riding Education Committee for the erection of a middle school.

COLCHESTER.—The Corporation have decided to widen the Harwich Road, where building developments are proceeding, at a cost of £690.

DINNINGTON.—West Riding Education Committee are acquiring a site at Doe Quarry Lane, Dinnington, for the erection of a mining and technical institute.

DOUGLAS (I.O.M.).—Mr. J. E. Teare, architect, has prepared plans for an additional 19 houses, for the erection of which tenders are to be invited.

GLASGOW.—The architect has been empowered to arrange for various alterations at the municipal buildings.—Plans have now been prepared for new washhouses at Wolsley Street, Hutchesontown, and the Baths Committee recommend proceeding with the scheme, which is estimated to cost £30,000.—Messrs. Mactaggart have a scheme for the erection of 130 houses at King's Park, Florida.—Messrs. Lawsons, Ltd., are to enlarge their premises at 363 Argyle Street and 84 James Watt Street.—Messrs. Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Glasgow Glass Works, Firhill, are to erect new buildings in Murano Street.—The United Wire Works, Ltd., propose extensions of their works in Dale Street, Bridgeton.

GRAVESEND.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of 12 blocks of tenements, four tenements to each block; Mr. Dunch is the architect for the scheme.—Plans passed: alterations, 75 High Street, for Mr. E. W. Filkins; additions and alterations, 44 and 46 Harmer Street, for Messrs. Bridgland & Clay.

GUILDFORD.—The Education Committee are asking architects to quote terms for preparing plans for additions to the Stoughton girls' school.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the proposal for the purchase of 96 acres of land at Aldershot Road for a housing scheme.—Onslow Village, Ltd., have prepared a scheme for the erection of 8 houses and 14 bungalows in Elm-side.—Plans passed: Additions and alterations, 124 High Street, for Messrs. E. Pollard & Co., Ltd.; shops, Bridge Street, for Messrs. Clemence & Co., on behalf of Messrs. Armour & Co.; block of houses, Parkhurst Road, for Messrs. Brownrigg & Hiscock.

ILKLEY.—A site in Bolling Road, Ilkley, has been purchased by the West Riding Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school for girls.

KIVETON PARK.—A diphtheria block is to be provided at a cost of £3,590 at the Swallownest isolation hospital by the South Rotherham and Kiveton Park Joint Hospital Committee.

LEEDS.—The Watch Committee have agreed to alterations of a portion of the Leeds College of music, Cockridge Street, into a theatre, balcony, dressing rooms, etc., for Mr. Edgar Haddock. Mr. Walter Longley has prepared plans for converting the first floor of Crown Buildings, Vicar Lane, into a dance hall.

LINTHWAITE.—West Riding Education Committee have prepared a scheme for a school for about 500 children at Linthwaite, estimated to cost £27,500.

LOWESTOFT.—Plans passed: tower addition, St. Mary's Convent, Kirkley Cliff, for Rev. Mother Superior; conversion of workshop into dwelling, Morton Road, for managers of the South Cliff Congregational Church.

MACCLESFIELD.—The school managers of the Girls' High School are proposing to make extensions to the school buildings. Plans are being prepared by the Borough Surveyor, Mr. Hampson,

Borough Surveyor's Office, Town Hall, Macclesfield. Quantities by Mr. H. Sheldon, surveyor, King Edward Street, Macclesfield. No contracts placed.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Messrs. D. F. Pritchard, Ltd., are to carry out alterations and additions at the Pelican Inn, High Street, Dowlais.—Mr. Thackeray, the borough architect, is to prepare a scheme for dealing with a site of five acres acquired for housing purposes at Aberfan.—The Ministry of Health have agreed that the proposed housing scheme at Treharris shall be carried out by direct labour and the architect has been instructed to make preliminary preparations to commence the work.—The architect has now prepared estimates in connection with the Dowlais unhealthy area scheme, provision being made for 90 houses, estimated to cost £500 each.

OXFORD.—The Education Committee have prepared plans for buildings at St. Aldate's, for purposes of a clinic and domestic training centre, at a cost of £8,300.—A sub-committee has been appointed to prepare a scheme for the erection of a secondary school for boys on the White House site.

STRETFORD.—A site in King's Road is to be purchased for the erection of a school.—Land in Chester Road is being acquired for the erection of houses to accommodate the tenants who will be displaced from Wellington Place.—Plans passed: sewers in Alpha Road, Stothard Road and Hampson Road, for the Trafford Estates; 10 houses, Plumbley Drive, for Artistic Housing Co., Ltd.; 6 houses, Beresford Road, for Mr. J. Blunn; 6 houses, Hampson Road, for Mr. T. Pollock; workshops, Gresham House, for Henshaw's Institution for the Blind; workshops, Mallor Road South, for National Benzole Co., Ltd.; extension to H.T. laboratory, Trafford Park, for Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd.; additions to works, Bridgewater Street, for Mr. Thomas Hill; additions to works, Trafford Park, for Messrs. William Glover & Co., Ltd.

THORNE (YORKS.).—The governors of Thorne Grammar School have purchased a site of ten acres for the erection of new school buildings.

WAKEFIELD.—The Education Committee propose to secure a site as soon as possible for a school for 750, at or near the Lupset estate.—Sketch plans have been approved of a new school at Portobello.—Forty-four A3 type houses are to be erected on the Portobello housing estate, at a cost of £24,300.—The Corporation are considering the acquisition of the site of the Crown Brewery, in conjunction with the present baths and invalids' kitchen, as a site for a new bath and public hall combined, a committee having come to the conclusion that the combined sites are eminently suitable.—Another hundred houses are to be subsidised.—Plans passed: sports' pavilion, Girls' High School playing fields, Richmond Road, for Mr. W. H. Watson, on behalf of governors of Wakefield Charities; workshop, Castle Road West, for Messrs. Newbald & Hartley; workshop, Thornes Lane, for Mr. J. B. Marshall; alterations to Co-operative Stores, Horbury Road, for Messrs. Hustler & Taylor.

WATH.—The Board of Education have approved the plans of the West Riding Education Committee for extensions at the Wath secondary school at a cost of £3,500.

WHITEHAVEN.—Steps are to be taken to acquire the Old Infirmary, Howgill Street, for conversion into a central school.—Alterations are proposed at the Christ Church Parish Rooms. Two demonstration Weir houses are to be erected.—The Whitehaven Brickworks Co. propose to build six houses in Low Road for their workmen.

WORSBOROUGH.—The Worsborough Birdwell Council school is to be enlarged by the West Riding Education Committee at a cost of £1,725.

YORK.—West Riding County Agricultural Committee recommend the acquisition of two farms at Askham Bryan, near York, at a cost of £22,000 and the erection of various buildings at a cost of £14,000.

Mrs. Grey has decided to sell the historic Bradgate Estate, near Leicester, which will mean one of the greatest realizations of the year. The fine Estate extends to well over 6,000 acres with some 1,800 acres of heavy woodlands lying in a compact block about 4 miles from Leicester in the beautiful hilly country bordering on Charnwood Forest. The sale will include Bradgate House, several smaller residences, many farms and small holdings, the Groby Granite quarries and stone works, the villages of Newtown, Linford and Groby, building and accommodation land, etc. Messrs. Hampton & Sons, of 20, St. James's Square, and Messrs. Warner, Sheppard & Wade, of Leicester, are the Auctioneers entrusted with the Sale, which will take place in the early autumn. The picturesque Bradgate Park, with the ruins of the mansion formerly the home of Lady Jane Grey, is being retained by the Vendor.

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The Kango Electro Mechanical Hammer.

The Kango Company, Ltd., of 73 Petty France, S.W.1, have brought out a clever electrically operated percussion tool which incorporates a new mechanical principle for the conversion of rotary into reciprocating motion. The invention is the result



THE HAMMER IN OPERATION.

of years of experiment and study and its adoption eliminates the heavy initial costs of compressor plants and costly pipe systems as well as their maintenance and upkeep. Its portability combined with the fact that it can be connected up to any ordinary electric circuit A.C. or D.C. of its corresponding voltage renders it universally adaptable.

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THE HAMMER IN OPERATION.

9 lb. It is guaranteed for six months, which guarantee includes the cost of the replacement of any defective part by the makers. Full descriptions will be forwarded on application and demonstrations given.

Messrs. Wood, Russell & Co.

Messrs. Wood, Russell & Co., designers and manufacturers of the well-known "Sentry" hot water boilers, have now placed on the market an oven designed to work in conjunction with their smallest size "Sentry" boiler—namely, the "Sentry" Minor No. 0.

The illustration shows the complete arrangement of the "Sentry" oven No. 0, fitted on top of a "Sentry" Minor boiler, and provided with the extension hobs which will fit on either side and in front of the boiler hot plate so as to give extra hot

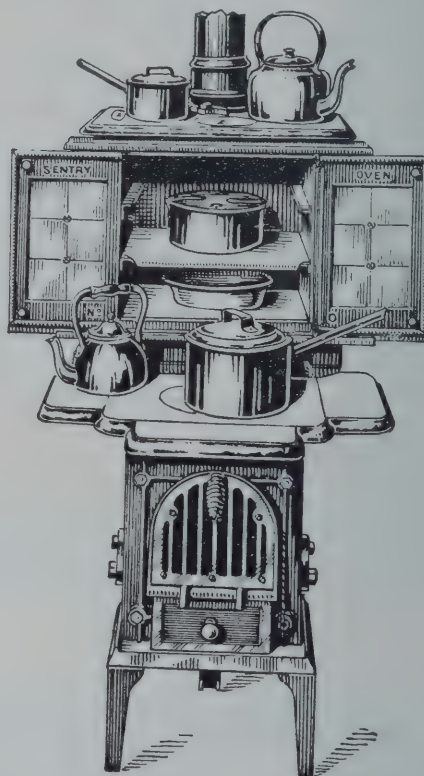


plate accommodation. The dwellers in the smallest size of country cottage or bungalow are not satisfied in these days with anything but an independent boiler for the hot water supply. In localities where gas is available this small "Sentry" oven will be found very useful as an adjunct to the gas cooker, and should soon save its cost. Where, however, gas is not available this "Sentry" oven offers a means of cooking not easily equalled.

With the combination illustrated it is possible for a small house to have an adequate and thoroughly efficient hot-water supply, and at the same time the fire is available for all the cooking requirements of the household. The "Sentry" oven No. 0, with, of course, "Sentry" Minor boilers, are stocked by all builders' merchants and ironmongers. Samples can also be seen at the showrooms of the manufacturers, Messrs. Wood, Russell & Co., 34, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

Property Auction Sales.

Messrs. Hillier, Parker, May & Rowden, of 27, Maddox Street, W.1, will offer at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on Thursday, 23rd inst., at 2.30 p.m., the following properties:

Freehold premises, 2 and 3, Barter Street (corner of Silver Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.). Of site area of about 1,800 sq. ft. Considering the extensive building operations that are taking place in Bloomsbury Square this property should attract considerable attention. The property is at present let as follows: No. 2 Barter Street on a quarterly tenancy at a rental of £80 10s. per annum; No. 3 on a lease which expires at Christmas next.

BLYTH.—The Corporation have decided to construct a bathing pool near the promenade at a cost of £7,000.—A scheme has been prepared for the erection of 50 houses at a total cost of £25,000.—The Corporation have decided to negotiate for the acquisition of the Albion brickyard of about five acres for the purposes of a town depot and destructor.

CONTENTS.

Regional Architecture	PAGE 55	British Architects' Conference at Newcastle-on-Tyne	PAGE 66
The New Ironmongers' Hall	59	Housing and Town Planning Tour.—No. 2	70
The "Architectural Forum," June, 1925	61	General News	72



PRINCIPAL ENTRANCE: IRONMONGERS' HALL. SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect,
Surveyor to the Ironmongers' Company.

Regional Architecture.

One of Professor Richardson's critics was disposed to argue that his claim that the architecture of the West of England was "regional" in its character was fallacious, an assertion which could only be made by an uncritical and casual observer, for not only Devon and Cornwall, but every part of Great Britain, has its characteristic buildings just as every county has its characteristic landscape. It is true that brick has become almost the prevalent building material in many traditional stone districts, but the use of brickwork in such localities is usually different from

the localities where brickwork has been more or less indigenous. From a plain expanse of brick walling we could often tell within a narrow limit the county we were in. Moulded and carved brickwork is more generally found in the South than in the Midlands and the North, where the introduction of stone in ornamental features is more usual. The half timber construction of Shropshire is unlike that of Cheshire or Lancashire and, again, unlike the more homely use made of it in Warwickshire and Staffordshire, while in Yorkshire the character of the stone



RECEPTION LANDING.



THE LIBRARY AND DRAWING ROOM.
IRONMONGERS' HALL. SYDNEY TACHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.



FIGURE OF ST. ELEGGIUS.
IRONMONGERS' HALL.
GEORGE ALEXANDER, R.B.S., Sculptor.
SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

buildings is entirely unlike those of the West of England. East Anglia is again a very distinct architectural province, the buildings of which are quite unlike those of Kent or Sussex. North of the Border we feel that architecture is expressed not in a different dialect but a different language from that of England, a language often having greater affinities with French precedent than those of England. Wherever, in fact, local building has been the work of the people rather than of an imported aristocracy, we find these marked differences. The architecture of Ireland, if we except the earlier Romanesque traditions, is an example of the work of the English governing classes in another land and not the spontaneous growth of popular expression in building. English design was imposed on Ireland in much the same manner that Spanish design was imposed on Central and Southern America and little differentiates it from the contemporaneous architectural expression of England save occasional signs of an indifference to precise formalism, partly the outcome of a desire to spend less lavishly. The counterpart of the architecture of 18th century Dublin is to be found in provincial centres in England enjoying a similar prosperity and not in Ireland itself.

We are asked by some to believe that modern conditions and development are bound to "steam roller" these differences and to give us similar solutions for similar problems everywhere, but those who would persuade us that this is inevitable surely forget that the abiding requirement in building is not furnished in the relatively small number of important buildings

erected but in the very much greater number of small buildings which compose the characteristic architecture of the county. But even in those greater buildings there is room for local expression and moreover such buildings are infinitely more interesting if they suggest locality.

A recent visit to Edinburgh has impressed us with this fact. Sir Robert Lorimer's Thistle Chapel is to our mind more Scotch in its character than any part of the older church of which it is a part. It is at once a work of genius and the expression of national character in architecture. In another way, the Usher Hall appeals to us as being characteristically Scotch in its character and strong and virile in expression. The same difference which differentiates the Renaissance of Holyrood from that of Hampton Court seems to us to mark the difference between the Usher Hall and any other similar English building we can recall to mind.

We could wish that architectural students went through a "finishing course" determined by the locality they intended to practise in, in which finishing course they gave their attention to some form of regional architecture, for the abiding glories of a city are not as a rule the exotic architectural growths planted there by genius but the best form of regional design which we feel would be in place nowhere else. The provincial architect might often be in a firmer position from outside importation if he by his work and efforts showed his fellow-citizens how to appreciate and understand the local vernacular. He is often at



FIGURE OF ST. LAURENCE.
IRONMONGERS' HALL.
GEORGE ALEXANDER, R.B.S., Sculptor.
SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

his weakest if he follows what might be described as a "London lead." As it is it would often seem as though it were necessary to live away from any district to appreciate its architectural beauties and it has been left for a London architect to expound and illustrate the local architectural beauties of the Cotswolds just as Professor Richardson has those of Devon and Cornwall, while local architects have too frequently ignored the traditional expression in their midst.

The neglect of local materials has frequently led to the disuse of good quarries, the importation of material previously unknown in the district, the glaring incongruities of tile roofs in slate districts, the use of masons as bricklayers and the introduction of Northern

features in Southern buildings and *vice versa*. It is true that we seldom go quite as far afield for our models as in the good years of the Gothic Revivals and of the age of Ruskin. We no longer are confronted with Venetian Gothic banks or Romanesque railway stations and the Neo-Greek Revival has died a quiet and a natural death. But we are confronted with the efforts of those who would impose on us a regulation system of modern expression chiefly borrowed from America for every type of building and the work of those to whom regional character is an unmeaning phrase. It is for this reason that we believe it to be useful to insist on the great charm and importance of keeping alive, or perhaps we should say resuscitating, local expression in every part of the country.

Our Illustrations.

NEW IRONMONGERS' HALL. SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

HOUSE IN KINGSDOWN ROAD, EPSOM. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.



FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR. IRONMONGERS' HALL.
SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

An Impression of the New Hall of the Ironmongers' Company.

This the latest and last of the halls of the City Companies has been especially interesting to us, as the subject is one of which we have a special and intimate knowledge gathered from comprehensive researches and investigations made some years ago and embodied in a book which is to be published.

The City Companies may almost be said to have done work without which the whole fabric of modern civilisation could never have come into existence. They regulated

craft industries and governed their members. They raised money for public purposes and undertook duties of supervision and search. The great Corporation of the City of London may be said to have been largely formed and supported on the fabric provided by the Companies, and its great citizens who from time to time rose to the front in periods of emergency were with very few exceptions members of the City Companies. To-day they have been shorn of much of their former power and influence, but yet they are to be found foremost among those who give public services when occasion requires, and the most searching investigation has only served to reveal the extent



FIREPLACE ON RECEPTION LANDING.
IRONMONGERS' HALL.
SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.



IRONMONGERS' HALL. THE LUNCHEON ROOM.

SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.



IRONMONGERS' HALL. THE BANQUETING HALL.

SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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THE GRAND STAIRCASE.



FIREPLACE IN ENTRANCE HALL.

IRONMONGERS' HALL.

SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

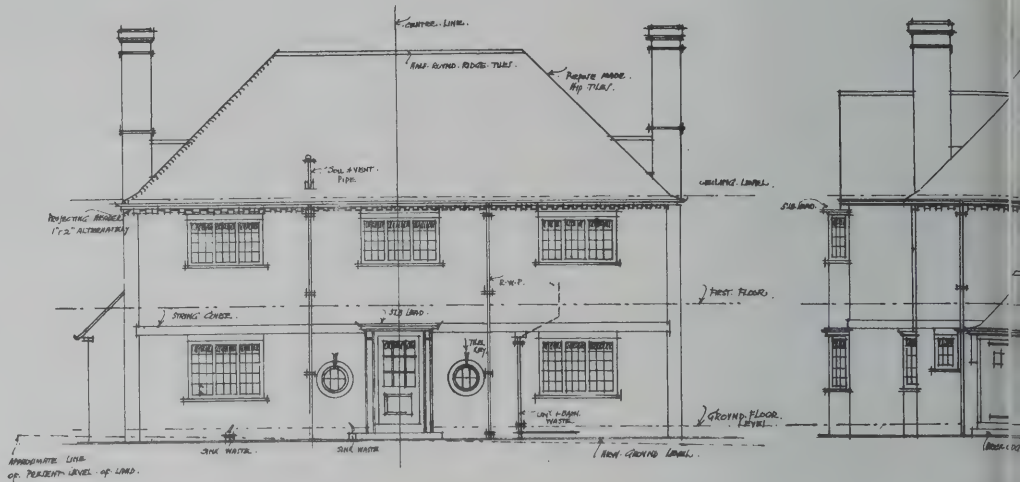
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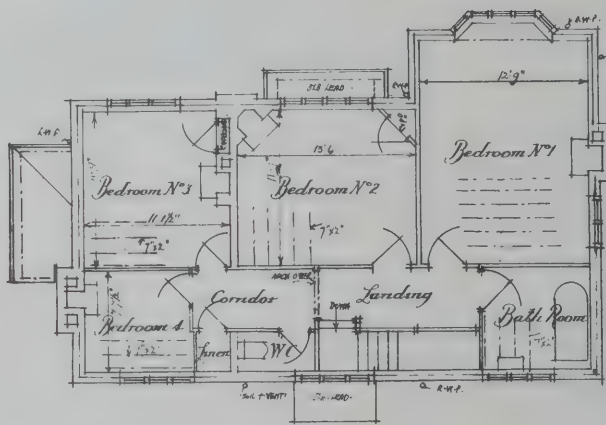
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For Captain Douglas Norman

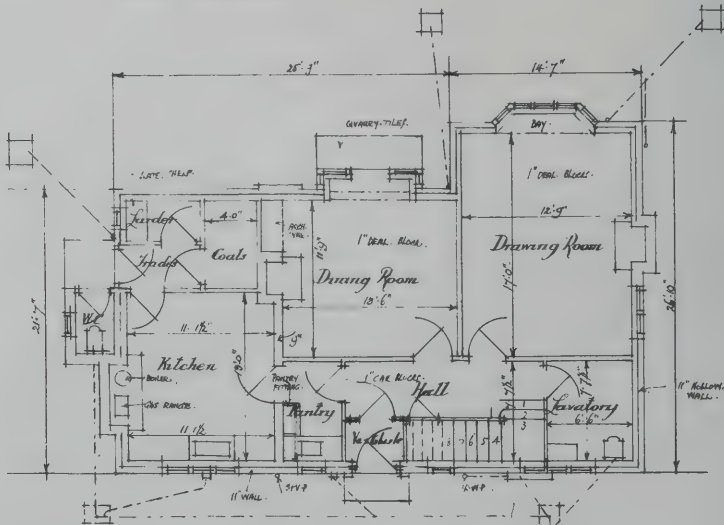


Elevation to Road

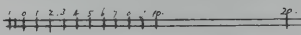
East Elevation



First Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan

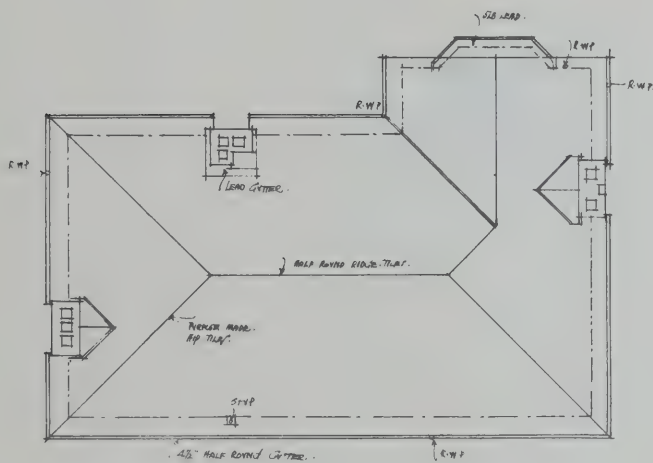


TO INTERCEPTING CHAMBER

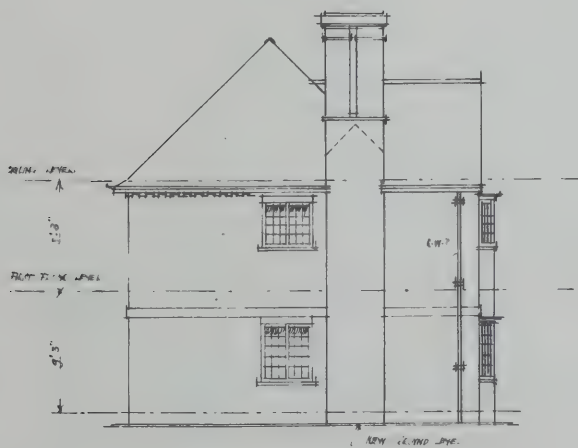
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Architectural elevation drawing of a two-story house. The drawing includes vertical dimension lines on the left side with labels: "CEILING LINE", "FIRST FLOOR", and "GROUND FLOOR LEVEL". The roof is labeled "VERTICAL TILING". The porch area is labeled "SCREENING CHAIRS". The drawing is signed "W.C. LORR" in the bottom right corner.

Elevation to Garden



Roof Plan



West Elevation

Nicholls & Hughes
Architects
& Raymond Buildings
Coars Inn London

"PHOTO-LITHO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3

W ROAD, EPSOM.

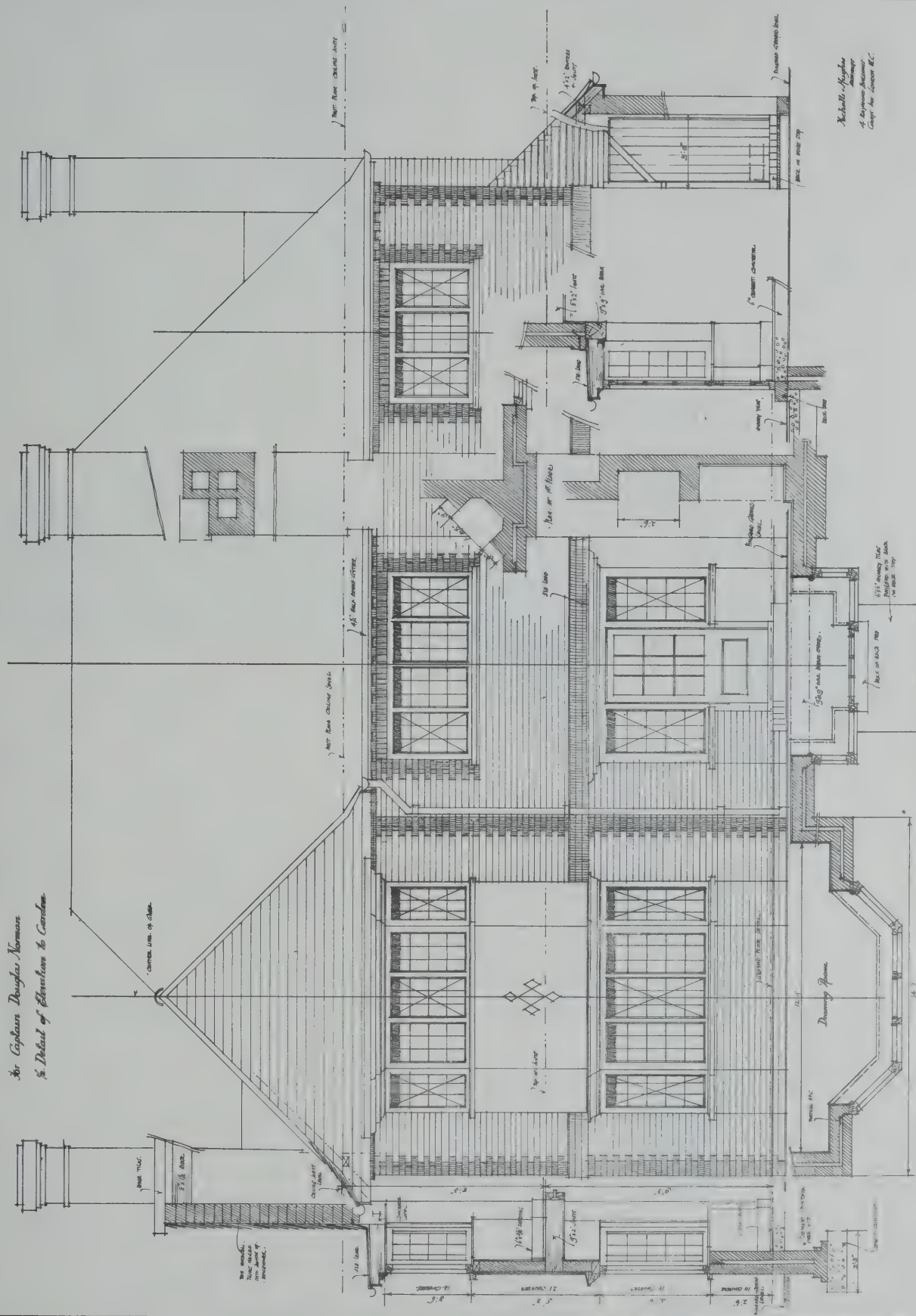
3. ARCHITECTS.

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HOUSE AT EPSOM N°3

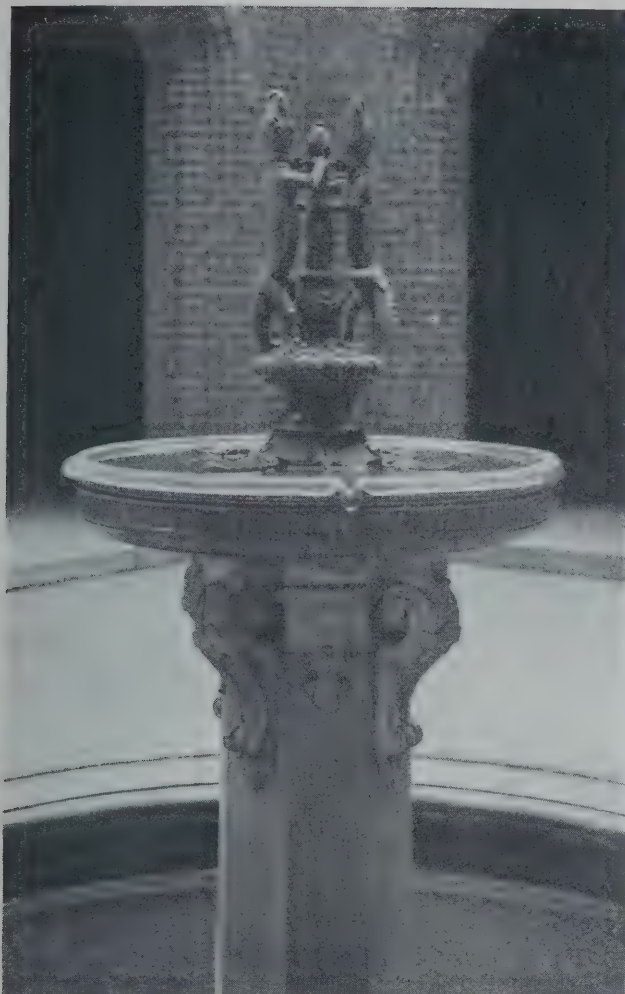
Mr Captain Douglas Norman
% Detail of Eleventh to Carden.



'PHOTO-LITHO': WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

HOUSE AT EPSOM.
NICHOLLS & HUGHES, ARCHITECTS.

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FOUNTAIN COURTYARD. IRONMONGERS' HALL.
SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

of their usefulness and the magnitude of their services to the community.

Mr. Tatchell has in his building put exactly the right note. Like many of the older halls, the new building is situated on a site behind a thoroughfare, and not facing it. The various rooms—of which we give illustrations—are treated with quiet richness, and the building suggests a sense of pleasant repose and dignity. The Jacobean note in its design is most appropriate for the home of a body whose traditions are rooted in the past, but whose usefulness is displayed in the present age.

A peculiarly pleasant and attractive feature is formed by the little cloistered space round a fountain situated at the junction of the two arms of the L-shaped building and overlooked from the Clerk's office and court dining room; the staircase and ground-floor corridor are very successful features. The Company have been most fortunate in the selection of their site, and in the fact that Mr. Tatchell has so ably met the demands which the design of such a building involves. Some buildings instantly appeal to us as being appropriate, and the new hall is one of these. It suggests traditions, and will endear itself to the affections of those who are members of one of the most important of the City Companies. The quality of the work is worthy of the design, and we have seldom seen a building which has been as perfectly carried out.

We regretted the demolition of the former hall in Fenchurch Street until we had the privilege of going over Mr. Tatchell's building, but we can now truthfully say that the City is not poorer for that demolition, but richer, as it has produced a very notable addition to the architectural features of the City of London.—ED.

The site is best likened to an inverted L, the upper arm being due north and south and the lower arm east and west. In our issue of June 22, 1923, we gave some preliminary sketches illustrating interiors and ground and first floor

plans. The planning was in large measure determined by the approach from Aldersgate, the necessity for obtaining a sunny aspect for those rooms which are in permanent use by the clerk and his staff, and the maximum of light and air in a building in a somewhat restricted area surrounded by ancient lights. The problem was further complicated by the site being within the fire danger zone of the City. Briefly described, the basement contains the strong rooms for the archives and p'ate, the wine cellar and store rooms, and the heating chamber, vacuum cleaner plant, waiters' room and other offices. On the ground floor are planned the entrance vestibule, hall, cloakrooms, luncheon room and lower buttery, the clerk's room and those of his staff and the Court Chamber. In the south-east corner of the site are the cloisters and fountain court, looking into which are the luncheon room and the clerk's room. An electric passenger lift connects all floors, and in addition to the grand staircase, which serves between the entrance hall and the reception rooms on the first floor, there is a secondary staircase for the beadle and his staff. Electric goods and service lifts are provided, together with an outside fire escape staircase with suitable exits from each floor.



DECORATIVE RAINWATERHEAD.
IRONMONGERS' HALL.
SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

The reception landing, drawing room or library, and the banqueting hall with its buttery are on the first floor.

The great kitchen and beadle's quarters are on the second floor, and in the space over the banqueting hall is the Great Garret (so named after an inventory of 1553), which contains the dressing rooms for the master, wardens and members of the Court.

The new hall is erected on a reinforced concrete raft, which covers the whole site. Fireproof construction is

used throughout the building, and is, in addition, protected on the outside by drenchers which operate automatically on an outbreak of fire occurring in surrounding property.

The heating is by low-pressure hot water; the cleaning by vacuum controlled by an electric motor in the basement and operated at hydrant points distributed on the several floors; and the ventilation of the luncheon room, Court Chamber and the banqueting hall is obtained by inlets of fresh air and by exhaust fans. The cooking is by gas.

Intercommunication house telephones are installed throughout.

English oak is used for all the panelling, the grand staircase and the joinery generally on the principal floors. Thin hand-made bricks from the Daneshill Works, near Basingstoke, are employed on the Shaftesbury Place frontage and in the fountain court, and Portland stone is used for the windows and doorways.

Messrs. Bell's United Asbestos Co., Ltd. Floor tiles were manufactured by Messrs. J. C. Edwards; oak and wood block flooring was supplied by Messrs. Hollis Bros. & Co., Ltd. We illustrate a very finely appointed kitchen which was fitted by Messrs. Benham & Son, Ltd., of Wigmore Street, W. Some of the wall tiling will attract attention; Messrs. Martin Van Straaten & Co., Ltd., were responsible for these embellishments. The steel casements are manufactured by the Crittall Manufacturers Co., Ltd., Braintree.

The skylights and prismatic glazing was made by Messrs. The Luxfer Co., Ltd. The automatic drenchers and fire appliances, so essential for all public and private buildings, were supplied by Messrs. Mather & Platt, Ltd. The locks were made by Messrs. Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd. The fire escapes stairs are constructed by George Wright (London), Ltd. The strong room door and safe was built by Messrs. Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd. The sanitary fittings, which are pleasing in their simplicity and effective service, have been fitted by Messrs. John Bolding & Sons. The internal paints and enamels used were manufactured



IRONMONGERS' HALL: THE GREAT KITCHEN. SYDNEY TATCHELL, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

The general contractors were Messrs. Holland & Hannen & Cubitts, Ltd., Gray's Inn Road, W.C. The list of sub-contractors includes a number of well-known craftsmen. Our illustrations show many of the decorative ceilings executed by Messrs. G. Jackson & Sons, Ltd., 49 Rathbone Place, W. The cast lead work was carried out by J. L. Emms, The Arches, The Grove, Hammersmith. This craftsman has built up a reputation for taste and fine workmanship which is securing him the appreciation of many clients. The stone and wood carving has been carried out by George Alexander, R.B.S., sculptor, who executed some remarkably good work on the London County Hall for Mr. Ralph Knott, architect. The wrought iron work comes from craftsmen of wide repute, Messrs. F. G. Frost and Bainbridge Reynolds, and the heraldic glass, of which many examples adorn the windows, is the work of Mr. Reginald Bell. The tapestries and curtains are executed by Messrs. William Morris & Co., Ltd. Referring to the constructional side, Messrs. Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., are responsible for the constructional steel and the fireproof floors were carried out by Messrs. The Kleine Patent Fire-Resisting Flooring Syndicate, Ltd. Messrs. Waygood-Otis, Ltd., supplied the passenger lifts, and the service and goods lifts were fitted by Messrs. James Ritchie & Sons. The jointless flooring was supplied and laid by

and supplied by Messrs. William Harland & Sons. The moulded bricks used round the Fountain Court and in the doorways were supplied by Messrs. Daneshill Brick & Tile Works, Ltd., Fasingstoke, Hants.

SALFORD.—Plans passed by the Borough Council include the following:—Additions to "Bella Vista" High School for Girls, Singleton Road, Broughton, Architects' Department, Salford Education Committee, Chapel Street, Salford; additions to works, Villiers Street, Pendleton, for Sun Bleaching Co., Ltd., architect Mr. S. A. Whitworth, 13 Claremont Road, Pendleton; garage and workshop, Beck Street, for Messrs. Cockshoots, Ltd., Gore Street, Salford, architect Mr. E. D. Sherlock, 17 Lever Street, Manchester; alterations to works, Pine Street, for Messrs. Hudson Treviling, Ltd., Arlington Mills, architect Mr. S. Moss, 4 St. Ann's Square, Manchester; extension to premises, 104 Blackfriars Road, for Mr. S. A. Baker, engineer, own architect; extension to offices and works, Liverpool Street, Pendleton, for Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., architects, own department at Head Office, 39 Wells Street, Bradford, Yorks.

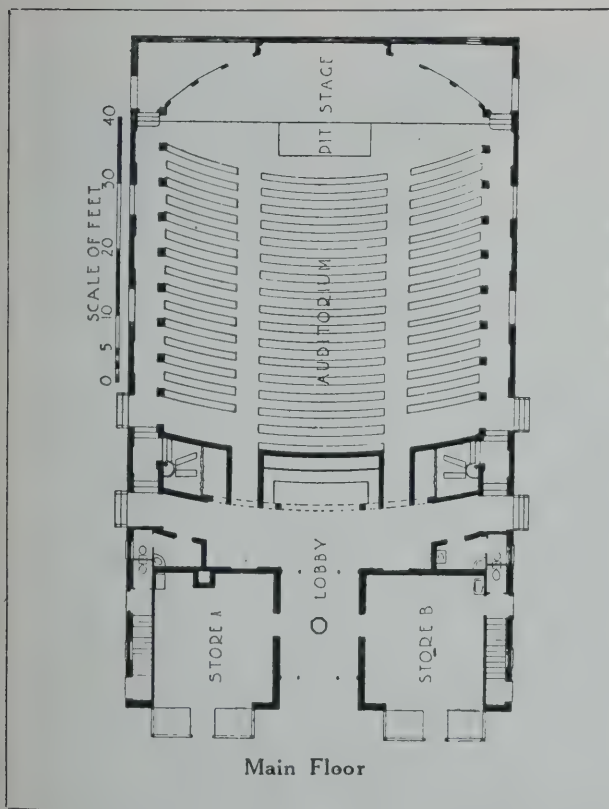
OSSETT.—The Corporation are to borrow £12,000 for housing purposes.—Messrs. John Smith's Tadeaster Brewery Co., Ltd., are to make additions and alterations at the Spa Inn.

The "Architectural Forum," June 1925.

Motion Picture Theatres.

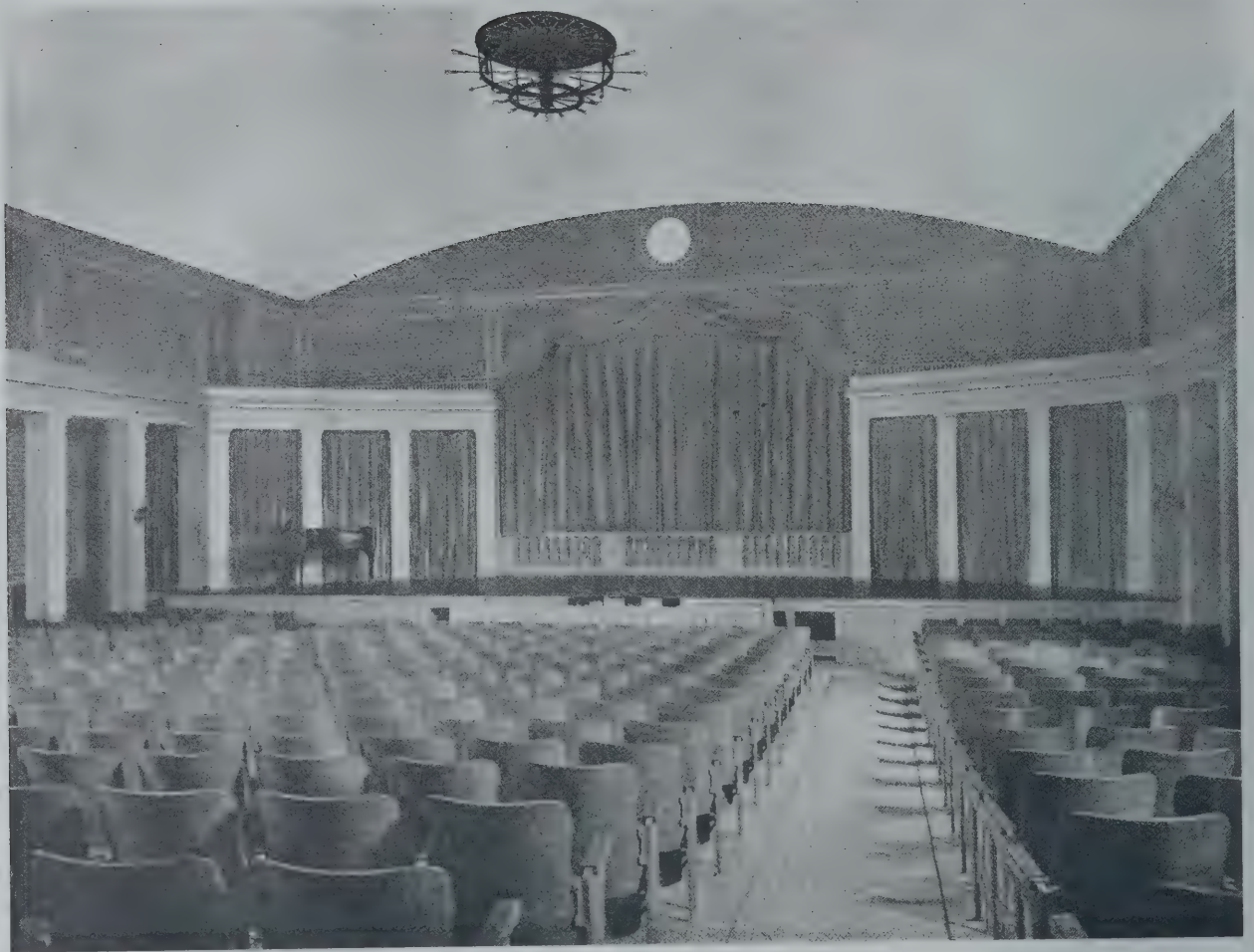


THE PLAYHOUSE, NEW CANAAN, CONN. DAVIS MCGARTH & KIESSLING, Architects.



ornamental forms. In this country we have reached a more enlightened appreciation of decorative values. Our public realises the beauty which can be conveyed by simplicity. Throughout the whole survey given in this American journal, very few examples can compare with the Regent Theatre, Brighton, by Robert Atkinson; the Shepherd's Bush Pavilion, by Frank T. Verity, and the New Gallery Picture House, Regent Street, by Nicholas & Dixon-Spain, architects. The United States is overflowing in wealth, and, judging from the June issue of the "Architectural Forum," those who cater for the pleasure-seeking public are apparently convinced that the American desires to be reminded of the fact that he indeed has amassed riches. Someone will some day invent a means by which posters can be displayed without injuring the external effect of a building. Many proprietors have reached that stage of refinement where they realise that men of education do not like to be seen entering buildings which have any leanings towards vulgarity. However wishful the visitors may be to see the picture, they do experience a mental shock when entering a building the exterior of which is beplastered with posters in lurid colourings. Whilst it would be impossible to give a detailed review of the many buildings included in this review of American picture theatres, the following seem to call for some special notice. Under the chapter heading of "Present Tendencies in the Design of Theatre Façades" Mr. Kenneth Franzheim, architect, New York, includes views of the entrance façade, Capitol Theatre, St. Paul, by C. W. and George L. Rapp, architects. In the main, the proportions are pleasing, though the relief decoration used seems to convey a restless effect. The Orpheum Theatre, New Orleans, G. Albert Lansburgh, architect, has a dignity which is not manifest in many other illustrations. The Eastman Theatre, Rochester, with its long front executed in an extremely simple manner, is also an exception on

This issue is devoted entirely to picture theatres. Some very fine elevations are included, but a great many of the illustrations show that designers have been animated by a desire to produce the effect of richness without dignity. The interiors all suffer from an intense overloading of



INTERIOR OF THE PLAYHOUSE, NEW CANAAN, CONN. DAVIS MCGARTH & KIESSLING, Architects.



THE RYE THEATRE, N.Y. HARRY LESLIE WALKER, Architect.

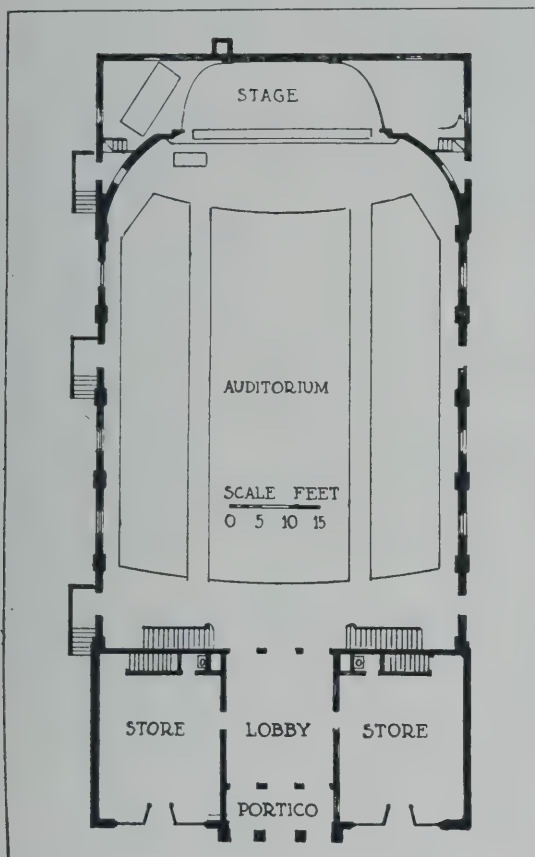
the side of good architectural design (Gordon & Kaelber, architects; McKim, Mead & White, associated architects).

The author of the article also includes some illustrations of his own work. In conjunction with C. Howard Crane, architect, he is responsible for the World Theatre, Omaha, the Earle Theatre, Washington, the James Theatre, Columbus, Ohio. He writes that "nineteenth-century opera houses and theatres stand to-day as silent reminders

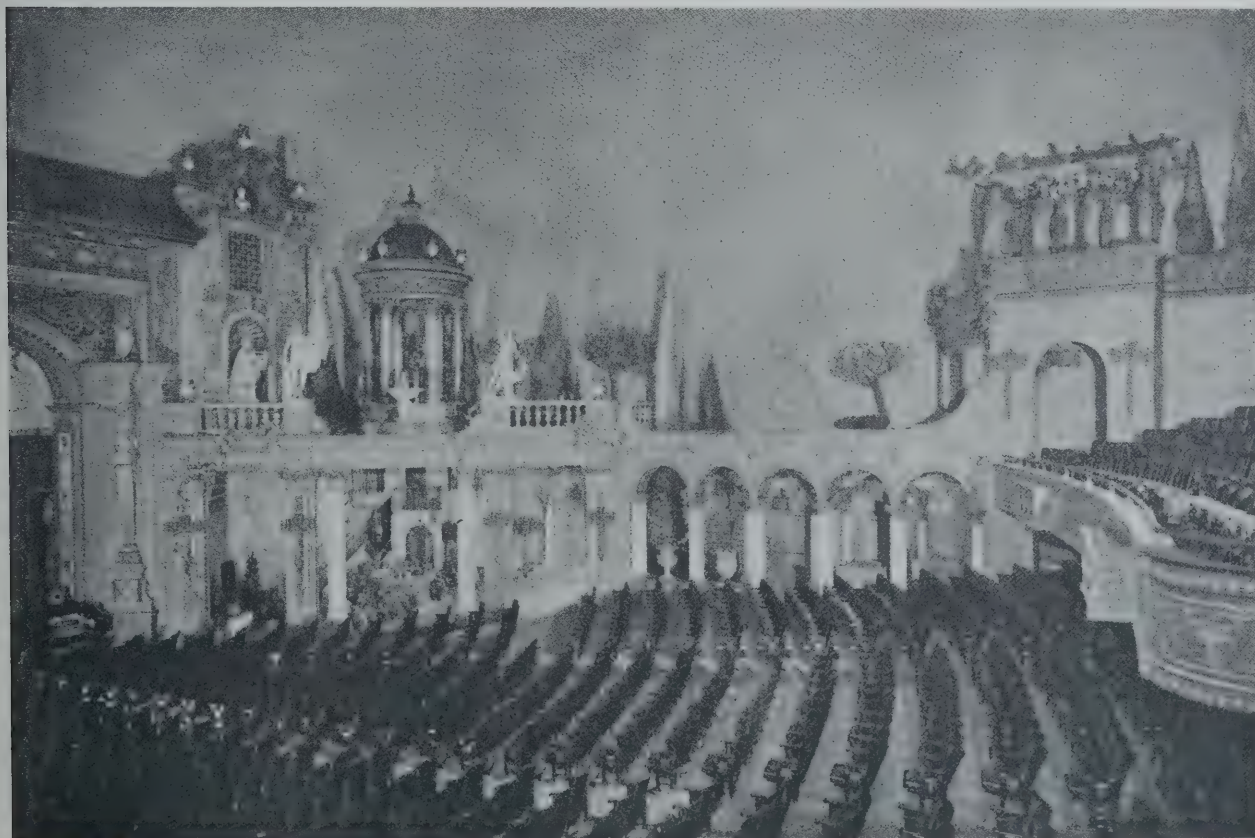
of the decadence of American taste in that period. With the exception of the Madison Square Garden, with its splendid theatre, now being demolished, there was nothing created before 1900 that is worthy of consideration as a work of art. Occasionally considerable sums of money were squandered on garish interiors, but little attention was ever paid to the house's outward beauty. As the public to-day is demanding alluring façades and attractive appointments, even to the curb, architects are hastening to respond to this demand. However, up to the present time but few buildings designed as motion picture theatres have been built worthy to be regarded as outstanding examples of architecture." Judging from the illustrations included in the review, one is perforce inclined to agree. It may be that the word "alluring" conveys a different meaning to the American than it does to ourselves.

As applied to architecture, it does not strike a happy note. The author further says: "The modern commercial problem is to beguile the public with pleasurable expectation by creating façades that are at once exalting and inviting, yet free from garishness and cheap ostentation. In individual theatre buildings the opportunity is, of course, much greater than in theatres constructed in connection with large office buildings. In practically all of the latter, the problem of expressing the theatre entrance properly has been completely ignored. Generally the effect has been 'to punch in' two or three store fronts, hang up a marquee and electric sign, and then to request the public to imagine the rest. Considerable progress has, however, been made in handling of electric signs, marquees, poster boards and other exterior accessories. Electric signs that were at one time designed by tinsmiths are now carefully studied as a part of the architectural composition, and are now anchored to the buildings with due consideration for architectural fitness. Marquees were for a long time appropriated as 'brackets' for electric attraction signs, with the original purpose of sheltering the patrons often completely overlooked."

Expressing these most fitting sentiments it strikes one as a little strange that the author could not have found a better solution when arranging the shops in connection with "The World" Theatre, Omaha. The conflicting treatment of the decorations of the Earle Theatre, Washing-



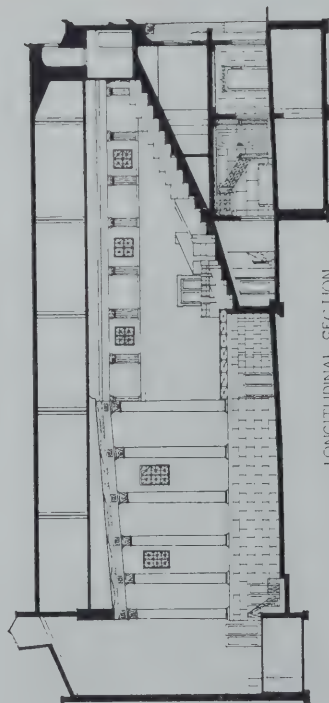
MAIN FLOOR PLAN, THE RYE THEATRE, RYE, N.Y.
H. L. WALKER, Architect.



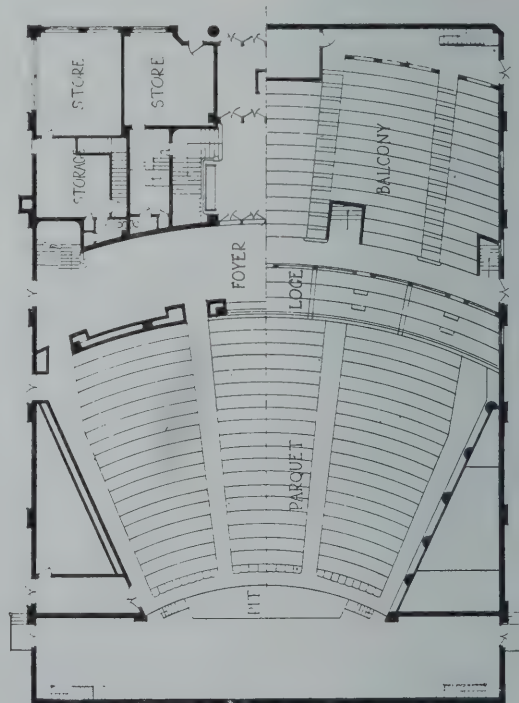
DECORATIVE EFFECT DEPICTING AN ITALIAN GARDEN. THE CAPITOL THEATRE, CHICAGO. JOHN EBERSON, Architect.



FRONT ELEVATION

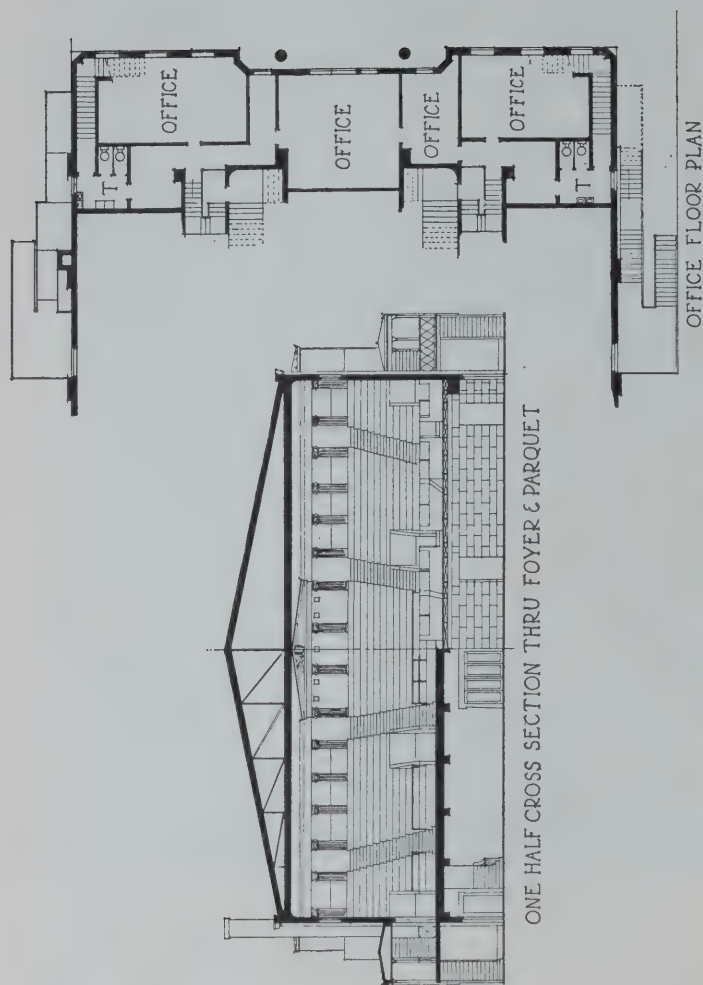


LONGITUDINAL SECTION

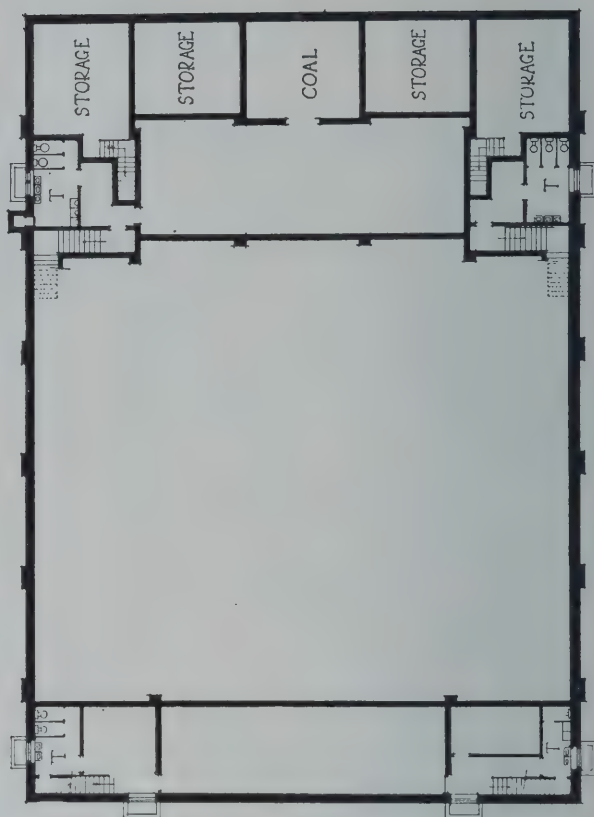


ONE HALF PLAN OF PARQUET & BALCONY

"Architectural Forum" 1925.

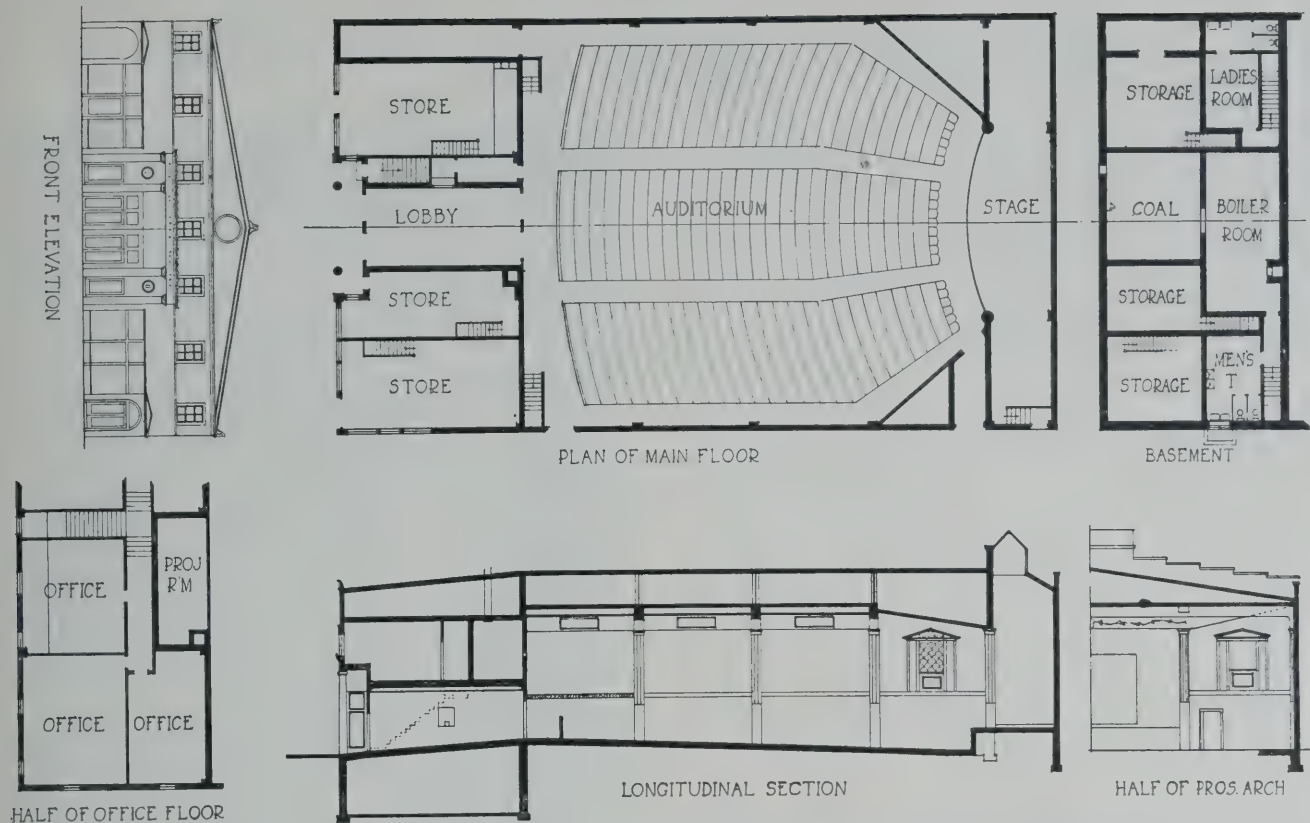


ONE HALF CROSS SECTION THRU FOYER & PARQUET



OFFICE FLOOR PLAN

PLAN OF BASEMENT
STUDIES FOR A SMALL MOTION PICTURE THEATRE IN THE GREEK STYLE. J. H. PHILLIPS, Architect.



ELEVATION, LONGITUDINAL SECTION AND PLAN OF THE BASEMENT, MAIN AND MEZZANINE FLOORS OF A MOTION PICTURE THEATRE IN A SMALL TOWN. J. H. PHILLIPS, Architect.

ton, is so apparent that one fails to understand an architect carrying out such a scheme. The electric sign of the James Theatre, Columbus, Ohio, is also illustrated. Mr. Franzheim tells us that considerable progress has been made in connection with electrical signs and their designs. Not a few in this country would condemn this sign completely.

The spirit which apparently predominates the American theatre architect, judging from this review, is perhaps best conveyed by the opening sentences of the article on "Theatre Entrances and Lobbies," by Mr. E. C. A. Bullock. "The people of to-day's hurly-burly, commercialised world go to the theatre to live an hour or two in the land of romance. So it is that the sophisticated playgoer must be taken up on the architect's magic carpet and set down suddenly in a celestial city of gorgeous stage settings, luxurious hangings and enchanting music."

On this side the architect has no wish to intrude upon the business of the producer of plays and romantic effects. He is concerned with creating a building which will be of permanent beauty.

For decoration our architects must seek motifs which will never be in conflict with the main object of the building. Our public visit picture theatres to see pictures. They frequently are very disappointed, but their disappointment cannot be anything like as keen as that of the American public who have been "taken up on the architect's magic carpet and set down suddenly" to look at a film which has been produced without any of the architect's magic, where rooms of one period are furnished with furniture frequently much later in date, and where the actors perpetrate all manner of impossibilities.

The Manchester Dispute.

With regard to the dispute now pending as to the result of the Manchester Art Gallery Competition, we think that the architects concerned would be wise to look upon it not as an individual case, but as part of a system which should either be left as it is or altered. There are, it seems to us, three clear courses which may be taken. The first of these is to maintain the *status quo*, which involves the patient acceptance of an assessor's mistakes. The second would be for the R.I.B.A. conditions for the regulation of com-

petitions to include the following statement: "The competitors are not bound to observe any clause or requirement laid down, but the information given in the conditions of any competition are to be held merely as suggestions." The third course is to so reform and alter competition procedure so as to give competitors a right of appeal in cases where the conditions laid down have not been adhered to in the assessor's award. In our view, the first of these courses is absurd, and must be productive, as it is constantly shown to be in practice, of both dissatisfaction and friction, the remedy for which is the incorporation of either the second or third remedy suggested. We prefer the third ourselves, but the second would meet the case, and either would put an end to recurrent trouble.

Architecture at the Royal Scottish Academy.

The Architectural Room at the Royal Scottish Academy contains some very interesting work, amongst which may be noted Sir Robert Lorimer's magnificent Paisley War Memorial, shown in three photographic views, and Marchmount, Berwick, a very fine country house by the same architect. Mr. F. C. Mears's detail for the organ screen of the First Church of Christ Scientist is a very delicate and pleasing composition. Messrs. Orphoot Whiting & Bryce send photographs of Topley Court, North Devon—a work of restrained and interesting detail, and Mr. James Millar, of Glasgow, a large view of the Union Bank of Scotland. Messrs. Brierley & Rutherford send a drawing of the War Memorial Chapel at Durham, a well-conceived design, and Messrs. A. N. Paterson & Stoddart, of Glasgow, a design for the Edinburgh Aquarium. Mr. J. N. Cowper, an architect whose work all would like to see more frequently, sends an interior of Wimborne St. Giles. Among well-known English architects, Mr. Guy Dawber, Sir Reginald Blomfield, Mr. Curtis Green and Mr. Oliver Hill are all represented by characteristic works, nor must we forget Sir John Burnet, whose work is equally well known on both sides of the Tweed. But "the foreigner" is well represented in this the chief of Scottish exhibitions.

CAMDEN TOWN.—The governors of the North Western Polytechnic, Camden Town, have now prepared their scheme for extensions, which are estimated to cost £113,000, for which the L.C.C. propose to make a grant of £50,000.

British Architectural Conference—Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Smoking Concert.

The inaugural proceedings of the 1925 Conference of the British Architects at Newcastle-on-Tyne took the form of a smoking concert at the Old Assembly Rooms, on Wednesday evening, July 8, as a preliminary to the more serious business which brought members from all parts of the country to the famous northern city of historical renown. It also afforded the members the opportunity of renewing old acquaintanceships and of establishing new friendships.

Thanks to the efforts of the Northern Architectural Association, the welcome accorded the visitors was characteristically hearty, as one might expect in the northern province. The President of the Northern Architectural Association, Col. G. Reavell, O.B.E., was there to give the members of the Conference and their ladies, whose presence added not a little to the charm of the evening, the most cordial of welcomes. With him were the members of the Local Conference Committee, with Mr. R. Norman MacKellar as the ubiquitous and courteous Honorary Secretary.

The programme provided for the occasion was one of variety in every sense of the word.

The arrival of the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, F.S.A., and his wife, was greeted with musical honours.



DOWER HOUSE, PORCH. ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

During a pause in the musical programme the opportunity was taken to honour a distinguished servant of the Royal Institute in the person of Mr. Ian MacAlister, and to Mr. T. R. Milburn, V.P.R.I.B.A., fell the pleasant duty of presenting Mr. MacAlister with a handsome gold watch, accompanied by a substantial cheque, in recognition of the eminent services he has rendered both to the profession and the Institute as Secretary.

Mr. Milburn was particularly happy in his remarks. Having referred to the fact that Mr. Buckland had been largely instrumental in doing a great deal of the work in connection with the testimonial, Mr. Milburn said he had been connected so long with the Royal Institute that he



WHITE WALLS, THAMES DITTON.

Door green with black band; door grill, gold leaf.

ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

could remember no less than three secretaries—Mr. W. H. White, Mr. W. J. Locke, and, lastly, Mr. MacAlister. The work of the Royal Institute had increased enormously during the last few years and no one who was not a member of the London Council could possibly have any conception of the enormous amount of work which fell upon the shoulders of the Secretary. The meetings of the Council were fortnightly, and this involved constant work, and, in addition, there were the elections, and, above all, the great question which had been agitating their minds for so many years, the question of registration. All these matters meant a tremendous amount of work for a secretary. Apart altogether from that, there was the question of Mr. MacAlister's geniality. Mr. MacAlister was very popular, and deservedly so; a man might have all the necessary and admirable attributes of a business life, and be what was termed quite a good man, but there was something beyond that, and that was affection. In addition to all the work thrown upon him, Mr. MacAlister had, during the past few years, devoted himself to the problem of the unification of the Allied Societies with the Royal Institute. Some years ago when the Allied Societies went to London they were not in as strong favour as they were now; the London men now welcomed them and were ever ready to help them in every possible way, and a great deal of that bringing together into closer association had been due to the work of Mr. MacAlister. All these things combined had culminated in the recognition which they were making that night of the services which Mr. MacAlister had so splendidly and unselfishly rendered to the Royal Institute in particular and to the profession in general. "It is my great pleasure and privilege," concluded Mr. Milburn, "to ask your acceptance, Mr. MacAlister, of this gold watch and accompanying cheque as a mark of the esteem and affection which we all have for you personally, and of our appreciation of the eminent services which you have rendered to the Royal Institute."

The watch bore the following inscription: "To Ian

MacAlister from the Societies allied to the R.I.B.A., in grateful recognition of his unfailing courtesy and devotion to their interests. July, 1925."

Mr. H. T. Buckland, as one who had taken a little part, as he described it, in getting together the subscriptions for the testimonial, said the inception of the idea was not his but that of Mr. Thomas, that the services of Mr. MacAlister should be recognised in some tangible form. Mr. Buckland added that the collection of the subscriptions was a matter of the utmost ease; in fact, when the members were written to cheques literally tumbled in, and that was the best possible evidence they could have of the popularity of the recipient of the testimonial.

Amidst loud applause Mr. Milburn handed the handsome testimonial in dual form to Mr. MacAlister.

Mr. MacAlister, who was evidently touched by the warmth of the expression of the donors of his gift, said it was exceedingly difficult for him to adequately express his thanks for their most generous present, which was far more than he deserved. He felt that he was but a symbol of a great many other men. The work which Mr. Milburn had described so clearly had been going on for some years and the credit of it was due to certainly not less than a hundred members—Past-Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretaries, and others. It happened to be his fortunate lot to be there on the spot at the crucial time, the psychological moment, but they must realise that the result which had been achieved could not have been obtained without the devoted self-sacrifice and the united efforts of others. The work had required and obtained a great deal of unselfish labour, and for himself he was lucky enough to be there at the fruition of all that labour. He rather thought his friends had taken an exaggerated view of what he had been able to accomplish. All through, it had been an intense pleasure to him to do that which he had been able to do, more particularly because the result which had been achieved would be of permanent value, and it was a great pleasure to see the matter clinched in the past year. For himself, he might say that as the result of this coming together there was not a town in the country into which he might go without finding friends there. In conclusion, Mr. MacAlister reiterated his heartfelt thanks to all who had so generously recognised any services he had been able to perform.

Mr. E. Guy Dawber said that, as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, he would like to add his heartiest congratulations to Mr. MacAlister on the recognition which had been made of his invaluable services. "Every word that has been said about him," proceeded the President, "is true. His geniality and kindness and readiness to help anyone of us in difficulty without exception is known to us all, and it is a very great pleasure to those members of the Institute who know him and what he has done to see this generous recognition of his work and ability."

After another musical interlude, and as the finale of a memorable gathering, the President of the Royal Institute voiced the cordial and grateful thanks of the guests of the evening to the President and Members of the Council of the Northern Architectural Association, not only for the most delightful entertainment they had given them, but for their cordial welcome. "I can assure them," added Mr. Dawber, "that we very greatly appreciate it, and we want to thank particularly the Members of the Executive Council for having arranged such a delightful programme. I am quite convinced of this, that if the rest of the programme is carried out in any way commensurate with the charm of to-night's entertainment we shall really have one of the most successful conferences we have had for many years past. I find on looking at our Calendar that, with the exception of Liverpool, the Northern Architectural Association is the oldest in the country, and though old in years it is in no way senile, and it has given the profession some of the best men from the provinces, who have done most delightful work in all parts of the country. I am looking forward to seeing in Newcastle some of the evidences of their work. I am glad to see, also, that the Northern

Association has lately enlarged its sphere of action and has established branches so as to enable members who live in distant parts of the country, and are unable thereby to join the parent centre, to keep in touch with them just the same as our Allied Societies are with us, and if we can only establish these branches in various parts of the country it will all help to encourage and foster the position of the profession in those particular districts, and that I do feel is one of the matters that we really want to encourage. This is not an occasion for speech-making, I know, but I do want, on your behalf, to tender to Col. Reavell and the Members of the Council our most grateful thanks for the delightful entertainment which we have all so much enjoyed."

Mr. H. T. Buckland, in formally seconding the vote of thanks, said he was sure all the visitors would most heartily endorse it. "I do not know what is going to happen at future conferences," added the speaker, "but each succeeding conference has been better and better and better, and I do not know what the conference which follows this one is likely to be, after such an excellent entertainment as has been given to us this evening."

Acknowledging the vote of thanks, Col. Reavell said his Association and Council were more than repaid for anything they had done if the night's entertainment had given them pleasure. The remark had been made, in the course of the evening, that they had with them visitors from all parts of the country. He took that opportunity of welcoming a visitor from the United States of America, Mr. Corbett, and they also had with them visitors from Australia and South Africa. The Colonel also mentioned that he had received a letter that afternoon from one of their oldest members, Mr. Rich, who retired from practice long ago, and who remembered the time when it was a severe struggle to get six or eight members together to form the Northern Association, and as a veteran Mr. Rich desired to send his respects to the President of the Royal Institute. In conclusion, Col. Reavell said there really was nothing which called for all the kind words that had been uttered, but he wished to take the opportunity of saying that his share of the work had been very small, because other people had done it all. It only remained for him to express the hope that they would all have a good time in Newcastle.

As a fitting termination to a most enjoyable reunion, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung in hearty fashion and the gathering dispersed to seek that repose which would fit them for the strenuous day to follow.

[We are sorry that the report of this happy event, which included the presentation of a well-deserved testimonial to Mr. MacAlister, had to be held over with the report of the visit to Durham until this week. We should like to express our appreciation of the fair minded treatment that Mr. MacAlister has always extended to ourselves as members of the professional press.—EDITOR.]

P. & O. New Premises.

In our last week's issue we inadvertently omitted to mention that in connection with the P. & O. Steam Navigation Co.'s new offices, St. Mary Axe and Leadenhall Street, by Messrs. Colcutt & Hamp, architects, Messrs. C. Isler & Co., Ltd. sunk two boreholes, each 450 feet deep, constructed in a special manner to meet the requirements, and fitted same with their Improved Deep Well Pumps.

Messrs. Isler are fitting artesian wells at Messrs. Benn Bros.' new buildings in Fleet Street, by Campbell Jones, Son & Smithers, architects; The Eagle Star & British Dominions Insurance Co.'s new premises, Threadneedle Street, by Messrs. Gunton & Gunton, architects; The North British Mercantile Insurance Co., Ltd., new offices, Threadneedle Street, Messrs. Thompson & Walford, architects; and Messrs. Thos. Cook & Sons' new head office on the Devonshire House site, Arnold Mitchell, architect.

BRENTFORD.—The Ministry of Health have agreed to the proposal of the Urban District Council to erect a maternity wing at the Cottage Hospital, at a cost of £2,160.—The Council have promised every assistance to Messrs. Taylor, Willcock & Co., who propose to develop land east of Gunnersbury Lane by the erection of 400 houses.

British Architects' Conference at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

A Day in Durham.

Most of the hours of Friday were devoted to a visit to Durham, the city of historical and antiquarian renown. By special train the members journeyed from Newcastle, and on their arrival immediately proceeded to the Town Hall, in Market Square, where they were received by the Mayor of Durham, Councillor T. W. Holiday, who was accompanied by Alderman Robert McLean and Alderman R. T. Herring. At one end of the hall was displayed the civic plate, which is acknowledged to be absolutely unique, and which was inspected with the greatest interest by the visitors.

The MAYOR, in welcoming the visitors, said: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I feel this morning very proud indeed to have had the opportunity of welcoming you, the members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, to this our ancient city. We in Durham are very proud indeed that you have come here, and we hope that you will take the opportunity of thoroughly inspecting and taking note of what I understand will be shown to you to-day. Mr. President, from the brief conversation which we had just now I understand that this is your first visit to Durham. You ought to be ashamed, sir—(laughter)—but now that we have you here and your good lady, I feel sure that when you go away this evening you will have formed the resolution that it will not be very long before you are back here again.

Mr. E. GUY DAWBER, President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, acknowledging the Mayoral welcome, said: Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects I beg to thank you for the very generous welcome you have accorded us this morning on behalf of the citizens of your great city. This is a visit which I think will prove the most interesting of our Conference programme, and though it is true that I have never previously visited your city—a fact of which I am truly ashamed—I may say this, that I have seen it several times in passing through the railway station, from which point you get a most beautiful view of your city, a view which I have never seen equalled in England or in Europe.

I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating you on this very beautiful hall in which we are now sitting. I understand that it was built fifty or sixty years ago, and it is a delightful and most dignified room, and the use you have made of heraldry in its scheme of decoration adds to its dignity and interest. This is not an occasion for speech-making I know, but I should like to reiterate my thanks, on behalf of the members of the Institute and those who have come with us, for the warmth of your welcome to us to-day and to say how very much we appreciate it. There is one matter which I have omitted to mention, and that is the opportunity you have given us to inspect your civic regalia, which I understand is unique, and I am sure that the inspection of it will give our members the greatest pleasure and interest.

By devious roads the members made their way to the Palace Green, where they were taken charge of by various skilled guides for the purpose of viewing the Cathedral, and for two hours and more the visitors were able to see all the wonders of this historic pile, and at the same time to listen to a learned disquisition on the features, architectural and historical, from Professor Hamilton Thompson.

Subsequently a luncheon was provided for the visitors, who were the guests of the President and Council of the Durham Colleges in the Lecture Hall, Palace Green.

The President, Canon Ellershaw, was in the chair, and he was immediately supported by the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the High Sheriff of the County of Durham (Colonel Stobart), and other members of the Institute. The gathering was a very large and representative one.

Prior to separating for the purpose of visiting the Castle, Mr. E. GUY DAWBER said: Canon Ellershaw, ladies and gentlemen, before we separate and go to the Castle and the

other places which we are to visit this afternoon, I am sure that you would wish me, on your behalf, to thank the President of the Durham Colleges for their most generous hospitality in giving us this lunch. It is extremely kind of them, especially as we have had such an extraordinarily interesting morning in visiting the Cathedral under the guidance of Professor Thompson. I am sorry that the Professor is not here now in order that I might thank him personally, but I understand that he is going to be at our banquet to-night, when we shall have an opportunity of thanking him for his exceedingly interesting description which he has given us this morning of the Cathedral, with every detail of which he is so eminently acquainted. It was an exceedingly interesting morning, and as the Mayor has said, before I go away I shall have known all about Durham Cathedral, and perhaps I shall be able to tell His Worship something about it. We are now going to see the Castle and other buildings under the able guidance of Mr. W. T. Jones, and as the time is limited, and as we have enjoyed such a sumptuous lunch, I will not detain you further, but simply on your behalf thank the President and Council for the splendid entertainment which they have afforded us. I will ask Colonel Reavell to second the vote of thanks.

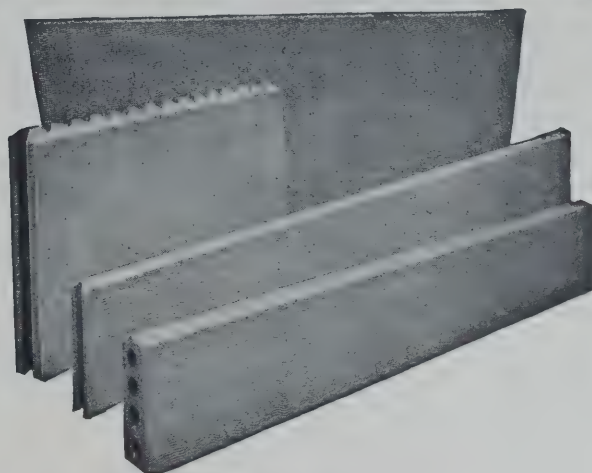
Colonel G. REAVELL said: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, Durham Cathedral always leaves one speechless; there is so much to think about that we do not feel inclined to say much. I am sure that we owe a very great debt of gratitude to the President and Council of the Durham Colleges for their very generous hospitality to us to-day. As I said before, under the shadows of Durham we do not talk, but we think, and we are going to think a lot about your kindness to-day.

Canon ELLERSHAW, who was greeted with loud applause, said: Mr. President, Mr. High Sheriff of the County of Durham, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the President and Council of the Durham Colleges I have to say a few words about your meeting here to-day, and also to thank you for the kind appreciation which you have shown with regard to the Council's efforts. It is very difficult to know whether on an occasion like this one ought to be serious or humorous. I think it is perhaps safer to be serious, because you so avoid the chance of your humour being mistaken. However, let me say that it is a great pleasure to the authorities of the Durham Colleges to have had the privilege of entertaining this gathering, a gathering which is fraught, and we believe and hope, with much good to the community, although when we look at some of the buildings which are scattered about the country we begin to wonder what ideas our ancestors had of what was beautiful when they were blind to the magnificent specimens of ancient architecture with which this country is so full. In a moment or two I hope you will be seeing the Castle Hall, and I think you will see there, at any rate, though not the largest by any means, one of the most impressive buildings which exist in this country. It always pleases me to reflect that when Chaucer was going on his Canterbury Pilgrimage, the Hall of Durham Castle was there, not quite as it exists at present to the outward view, but at all events for the same purpose, and that one building takes us back to about the year 1320, as a building which has been used for its original purpose from that day to this, and that is mainly for eating. I hope that your visit there will give you as much pleasure as I am sure it will give to my friend, Mr. Jones, to show you over it.

Following the luncheon the visitors were photographed in the courtyard of the Castle, after which they made a thorough tour of inspection of the ancient fortalice under the expert conductorship of Mr. W. T. Jones, F.S.A., whose knowledge of the Castle and its history is unsurpassed.

Later in the afternoon tea was provided in the Lecture Hall, Palace Green, and the return journey to Newcastle was accomplished, the members bringing away with them from Durham recollections of a most delightful experience, rich in historic and architectural beauty.

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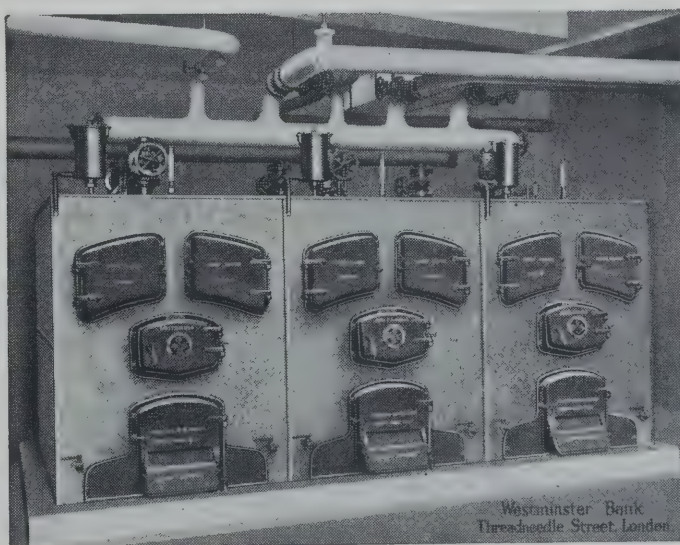
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Housing and Town Planning Tour—No. 2.

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association has made arrangements for a special housing and town planning tour to take place towards the end of September. The places to be visited have been carefully selected so as to give the widest possible variety of examples of what is being done. It will be seen from the itinerary that the tour will include visits to slum areas and slum clearance schemes, new housing estates being developed by the big corporations of the north and south, the industrial villages of Port Sunlight and New Earswick, the garden cities of Letchworth and Welwyn and the town planning schemes prepared and in course of execution by the Corporations of Manchester and Liverpool. Opportunities will be given in the course of the tour, for the inspection of houses erected by various new methods of construction, including concrete and steel. The tour will be personally conducted and representatives of those responsible for the local administration of the various schemes will accompany the party in the places visited. The tour will thus afford, under the most favourable auspices, a unique opportunity of seeing what is being done.

While it is hoped that as many as possible will be able to go the whole round, arrangements can be made to suit the convenience of those who cannot spare the time to do this and would prefer to participate in sections of the tour only.

The following is a complete detailed programme (subject to possible minor amendments):—

Monday, September 21.—10.30 a.m.: Leave Euston. Lunch on train. 2.20 p.m.: Arrive Liverpool. Inspection of town planning work of the Corporation, arterial roads, etc., by invitation of the Health and Housing Committees of the Corporation. 7 p.m.: Return to headquarters, North-Western Hotel, Lime Street.

Tuesday, September 22.—10 a.m.: Landing Stage. To Birkenhead by ferry. 10.35 a.m.: Leave Birkenhead (Woodside) for Port Sunlight. 10.45 a.m.: Arrive Port Sunlight. Inspection of the industrial village by arrangement with Messrs. Lever Bros., Ltd. 2.28 p.m.: Leave Port Sunlight and return to Birkenhead. By ferry to Liverpool, arrive 2.50. 3 p.m.: Inspection of slum improvement schemes carried out by the Corporation at Bevington Street, etc. 6 p.m.: Return to North-Western Hotel, Lime Street.

Wednesday, September 23.—9 a.m.: Leave Lime Street for Manchester. Arrive 10.13 a.m. 10.30 a.m.: Visit to housing estates, by invitation of the Corporation. 1 p.m.: Lunch. 2.30 p.m.: Inspection of town planning work and arterial roads. 4.30 p.m.: Tea. 5 p.m.: Inspection of plans appertaining to the Manchester Joint Regional Planning Committee. 6 p.m.: Return to headquarters, Midland Hotel.

Thursday, September 24.—9.30 a.m.: Visit to Trafford Park industrial area. 11.52 a.m.: Exchange Station, to Leeds. Arrive 1.20 p.m. Lunch on train. 2 p.m.: Visit to Middleton, a satellite of Leeds, separated from the city by woods of 400 acres. 5.52 p.m.: Leave Leeds (New) for York. 6.43 p.m.: Arrive York. 7 p.m.: Headquarters, Harker's Hotel.

Friday, September 25.—10 a.m.: Visit to New Earswick Garden Village. 1 p.m.: Lunch. 2.30 p.m.: Inspection of cocoa works by invitation of Messrs. Rowntree & Co., Ltd. 6.14 p.m.: York to London. Dinner on train. 10 p.m.: Arrive King's Cross.

Saturday, September 26.—10 a.m.: Leave Gray's Inn Place for Welwyn Garden City by charabanc. 11.30 a.m.: Arrive Welwyn Garden City. Inspection of city. 1 p.m.: Lunch at Cherry Tree Restaurant. 4.30 p.m.: Leave Welwyn Garden City for Letchworth by charabanc. 7 p.m.: Dinner Letchworth Hall Hotel. Headquarters for the week-end. Sunday, September 27, open for members of party to make own arrangements as to visits, etc.

Monday, September 28.—10 a.m.: Inspection of shopping and industrial areas by charabanc. 1 p.m.: Lunch at the Letchworth People's House. 2.30 p.m.: Inspection of Letchworth Urban District Council's housing schemes. 5.1 p.m.: Leave Letchworth for King's Cross.

Tuesday, September 29.—10 a.m.: Meet at Gray's Inn Place. Central London Tube to East Acton. 11 a.m.: Inspection of Hammersmith Borough Council's housing scheme. 1 p.m.: Lunch. 2.30 p.m.: Inspection of Acton Borough Council's housing scheme and experimental cottages. 4.30 p.m.: Return to Gray's Inn Place.

Wednesday, September 30.—10 a.m.: Meet at Gray's Inn Place. Visit to London County Council's slum improvement scheme at Brady Street, Bethnal Green, by charabanc. 1.15 p.m.: Lunch at Chadwell Heath. 2.30 p.m.: Inspection of London County Council's post-war housing estate at Becontree. 5 p.m.: Return to Gray's Inn Place. Close of tour.

COST OF TICKETS.—(1) Whole tour, leaving Euston September 21 and finishing London September 30, £12 10s. (2) Lancashire and Yorkshire section, leaving Euston Monday morning and arriving King's Cross Friday night, £9. (3) Lancashire section, joining at Liverpool on Monday afternoon, and leaving at Manchester Thursday morning, £4. (4) Letchworth and Welwyn Garden City week-end, Saturday morning to Monday evening, £3 10s. (5) London only, £1.

The prices quoted include railway, charabanc and tube fares; hotel accommodation and meals; lunch and dinner on trains where necessary; lunch in London two days (Tuesday and Wednesday). The exception is that members will need to make their own arrangements for sleeping accommodation, dinner and breakfast in London for Monday evening, Tuesday and Wednesday. A third-class vestibule coach will be reserved for the whole journey. It is hoped that members joining the party will do so for the whole tour. Arrangements can, however, where necessary, be made for members to join for sections only, at the above-mentioned prices. A deposit of 10s. must accompany each application for a ticket, which deposit will be credited to the account of the members if the tour is taken, but will not be returnable for withdrawals after September 1. These charges apply if application forms are received and deposit paid by Tuesday, September 1. Applications received after that date will only be accepted subject to accommodation being available and to an increase of 5 per cent. upon the above-mentioned charges. Please make your applications, on the enclosed form, to the Secretary, Garden Cities and Town Planning Association, 3, Gray's Inn Place, London, W.C.1.

Book Reviews.

"THE CALCULATIONS FOR STEEL FRAME STRUCTURES." By W. Cyril Cocking, M.I.Struct.E. (London: Scott, Greenwood & Son. Second revised edition. Price, 10s. 6d.)

When a book has weathered the uncertainties of an original edition and entered upon a period of renewed activity, it is, as a rule, evidence that it owns a measure of approval, which testifies to its value as a text book (when it is at all technical). We had almost written the word "popularity" in place of "approval," but a work on steel-frame structures can scarcely expect to be popular.

But ever present to our thoughts is the wonder that such a subject should attract so many writers to issue books upon the same rather uninspiring theme.

And this is more particularly to be accepted as justifiable when we read (and approve) the author's remarks in the preface: "Perhaps one of the greatest bugbears to the designer is the modern infatuation for mathematical analysis, which is often carried to ridiculous extremes; structures which by mathematical analysis have been proved unstable, unsafe, and even impossible, exist and continue to exist in service with an obstinate and one might say a studied defiance of modern theory." It is true that the author proceeds to discount the above, but we are satisfied to rest there.

After transcribing the L.C.C. (General Powers) Act, 1909, the rest of the book is devoted to the usual calculations, and concludes with model calculations, illustrated by six folding plates. A book for the office.

"Academy Architecture and Architectural Review." Vol. 56, 1924-5. 10s. net. B. T. Batsford, Ltd.

The new volume contains reviews of the 1925 and 1924 Royal Academy Exhibitions, the first eighty pages being devoted to these exhibitions. The special subjects included in the Architectural Review Section of the book are Business Premises 16 pages, Sculpture 16 pages, Theatres, Cinemas and Dance Halls 32 pages, Hospitals 16 pages, Interior Domestic Architecture 16 pages. The volume thus contains 176 pages of illustrations, which include reproductions from perspective drawings and water colours, photographic views of erected buildings and many plans. The classification of the Architectural Review Section into definite subjects is an attractive innovation of recent years. The data included in this section is entirely independent of the Royal Academy Exhibitions.

BRIXTON.—A central school for about 400 is to be erected by the L.C.C. Education Committee in the Angel Town district of Brixton.—The Committee have passed plans for a school for 600 to be erected in Sudbourne Road, Brixton, the cost being estimated at £29,611.

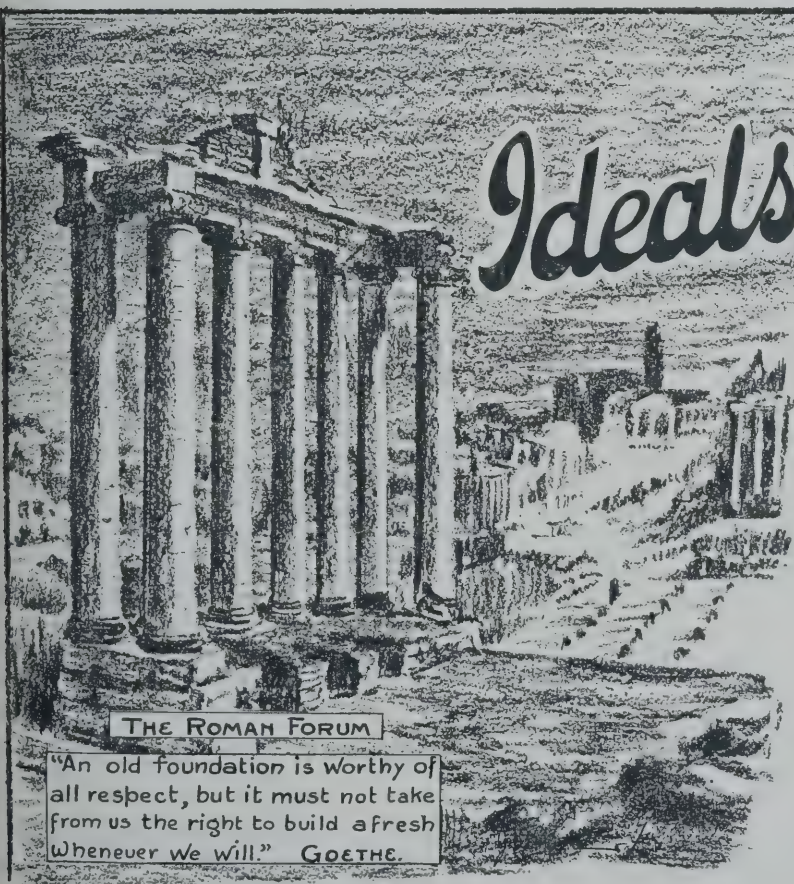


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General News.

BARNET.—Mr. J. W. Fisher has prepared plans for the extension of the Barnet Girls' Grammar School and the governors are to invite tenders for the work, which is estimated to cost £14,000.

BARNSELY.—Messrs. Briggs & Thornely, architects, of Liverpool, are now preparing their scheme for the new town hall to meet the present requirements of the borough at an estimated cost of about £100,000.—Eighteen acres at Hunningley Lane are to be purchased for a housing scheme, and negotiations are taking place for further housing land on the Honeywell estate.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £12,100 in connection with the extension of the Barnsley Grammar School.—Plans passed: new street off Woodstock Road, for Mr. Thomas Fox; conversion of farm buildings into two houses, Barnsley Road, for Mr. Perry; four houses, Doncaster Road, for War Fund Trustees; shelters and conveniences, Barnsley Road; grounds for Ardsley Miners' Welfare Committee.

BERRY WOOD.—Northampton County Mental Hospital Committee have prepared a scheme for extensions at the Berry Wood hospital to provide additional accommodation for one hundred cases. An architect versed in institutional work has been employed to draw up sketch plans. The scheme is estimated to involve an outlay of £100,000.

BETHNAL GREEN.—Plans have been prepared for a new elementary school for about 300 children in Bonner Street for the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption.

BLACKPOOL.—Plans passed by the Blackpool Corporation include the following:—8 houses in Bedford Avenue and 7 houses in Holmfield Road, for T. Bannister & Sons, builders, Northumberland Avenue; 33 houses off Granby Avenue, for J. Fielding & Sons (Blackpool), Ltd., builders, Ashburton Road; 7 houses at Broadway, for J. Midgley, builder, Broadway, South Shore; 5 houses, Abbey Road, for J. Hodgson, builder, Finchley Road; new offices, Clifton Street, for the Leeds Permanent Building Society, Ltd., architect, Mr. Halstead Best, F.R.I.B.A., 87 Church Street, Blackpool; school, Marlborough Avenue, for Governors of Baines's Charity, architect, Mr. Halstead Best, F.R.I.B.A., 87 Church Street, Blackpool; new brewery, offices and stores, for Catterall & Swarbrick's Brewery, Ltd., plans by Messrs. George Adlam & Sons, Ltd., engineers and architects, 1 Ellbroad Street, Bristol; contractors, Sir Lindsay, Parkinson & Co., Ltd., Talbot Saw Mills, Blackpool.

BRADFORD.—The Corporation have arranged to erect 74 houses on land adjoining the Bradford Moor housing site and £3,200 has been voted for street and sewer works.—Tenders are to be obtained for 25 houses on the Swain House estate.—The city architect is to proceed with the lay-out of housing sites at Eccleshill and Chellow Grange.—A scheme has been prepared for extending the electricity system at a cost of £32,000.—Plans passed: 24 houses, Briarwood Avenue, for Messrs. Groves & Greenwood; 10 houses, High Park Drive, for Mr. H. Proctor; 12 houses, Leeds Road, Eccleshill, for Mr. F. G. Burgess; 6 houses, Idle Road, for Mr. T. Miller; 17 houses, Grenfell Drive, for Messrs. J. H. Pitchers & Son; 14 houses, Lodore Road, for Messrs. R. R. North & Co.; 14 houses, Wyke Crescent, for Mr. J. Sharp.

BRISTOL.—A site in Broad Walk, Knowle, has been sold by the Corporation to the Congregational Union for the erection of a chapel in accordance with plans which have already been prepared.—The Corporation are to erect eight houses at Ham Green, at a cost of £4,176, which sum includes the cost of sewers and water main.—The Housing Committee propose to proceed with the erection of 80 houses on the Knowle and Bedminster estate at a cost of £46,000.—Arrangements have been made for the erection of demonstration steel houses as follow: 20 Telford two-storey non-parlour, Messrs. Braithwaite & Co., Ltd., at £430 per house, exclusive of foundations, gardens, paths, fences and service pipes; two Atholl houses, Housing Corporation of Great Britain, Ltd., £450 per house; two Weir houses, Messrs. G. and J. Weir, Ltd., £400 per house.

CLAPHAM.—Plans have been approved by the L.C.C. Education Committee for remodelling and enlarging the Stonehouse Street elementary school at a cost of £23,500.

DORCHESTER.—The Dorchester Swimming Club are to provide swimming baths and cubicles near Louds Mill at Grey's Bridge.—Plans have been provisionally approved for 104 parlour type houses on the Victoria Park site.—Efforts are being made to obtain a site for the erection of non-parlour houses.

EAST HAM.—The Education Committee proposes the demolition of White House to enable the scheme for the erection of a secondary school for girls to proceed.—Tenders received for the erection of houses on the central housing site are to be forwarded by the Corporation to the Ministry of Health, along with an estimate by the Borough Engineer.—The Works Committee have considered the question of the approval of plans of steel-

framed buildings where the walls are not proposed to be filled in between framing and recommend that such filling shall not be insisted upon where it is deemed that buildings will be sufficiently rigid without it.—The Borough Engineer has prepared draft plans for a swimming bath adjoining the existing baths, allowing for a 90 ft. pool, and he has been instructed to prepare plans and estimates.—Plans passed: Roof cover, New London Electron Works, Boleyn Road, for New London Electron Co., Ltd.; 5 houses, Gooseley Lane, for Mr. A. Tyler.

EASTLEIGH.—A new elementary school for 350 children is to be erected by the Hampshire Education Committee at Eastleigh to serve the districts of Bishopstoke and Eastleigh.

ELTHAM.—Additional school accommodation for about 300 children is to be provided by the L.C.C. Education Committee on the Eltham housing estate.

HEADLEY.—Hampshire Education Committee propose an expenditure of £3,500 on the provision of two classrooms, manual instruction room, etc., at the Headley Bordon elementary school.

HERTFORD.—Mr. J. W. Fisher, of Wellingborough, has been instructed by the Herts Education Committee to prepare plans for a new secondary school for 300 boys at Hertford.

HOLBORN.—The managers of the St. Andrew's Church of England school are to carry out structural alterations for converting the premises into a central school.

LEEDS.—The Corporation have approved of a proposal to purchase from Mr. Albert Braithwaite 32 acres on the Hollin Park estate for £20,715, subject to Mr. Braithwaite undertaking to complete the erection of 361 type B houses at £538 per house.—The Corporation have also agreed to the proposal to purchase 6½ acres on the East End Park estate for £6,000 from the East End Park Estate Co., subject to the company undertaking to erect 78 type A3 houses at £535 each.

LEWISHAM.—A committee of the Borough Council have considered the development of the old fire station site and recommend the erection of a public hall, with shops on the ground level.—Plans passed: New Street from Ravensbourne Park, Catford, for Messrs. J. Farrer & Sons; new streets on the Woolmore estate, Crofton Park, for Mr. A. H. Kersey; buildings at the Aerial Works, Eliot Place, Blackheath, for Messrs. Bishop & Everington-Smith; 6 houses, Coniston Road, for Messrs. W. Reynolds and Co.; 6 houses, Chinbrook Road, for Messrs. Scales & Jones; 8 houses, Bellingham Road, for Mr. H. R. Watt; nurses' home, at South Eastern Hospital, Sydenham Road, for Messrs. Prestige & Co., Ltd.; additions to biscuit factory, Manor Lane, for Mr. W. Doddington. The L.C.C. Education Committee have acquired Brent Knowl, Mayow Road, for conversion into an open-air school for the Lewisham district.

MARYLEBONE.—The governors of the Regent Street Polytechnic have prepared a building extension scheme involving an outlay of £250,000. The scheme will be spread over a number of years but meanwhile it is proposed to carry out part by the addition of storeys to existing premises at a cost of £47,000.

OTLEY.—The Urban District Council are borrowing £24,000 for the erection of 50 houses at Carr Green.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JULY 24, 1875.

PROPOSED STREET THROUGH NEWPORT MARKET TO CHARING CROSS.

The abandonment of the Central London Railway project, as shown by the company's Abandonment Bill, which has just been before Parliament, has resulted in an effort to make a new thoroughfare between the north of London and Charing Cross, which would have been secured had the Central London Railway undertaking been carried out. The Strand Board of Works have taken action in the matter, and at their meeting last week they passed a resolution to the effect that in view of the Abandonment Bill of the Central Railway and new street being carried, and of the necessity of providing more accommodation for the traffic from the north of London to Charing Cross, the Metropolitan Board of Works be memorialised to widen Crown Street, Soho, between Tottenham Court Road and Moor Street, and to construct a new street from Moor Street, through Newport Market, to St. Martin's Place, and to carry out the same as a Metropolitan improvement. It is urged in favour of the proposal that the new thoroughfare indicated is not only necessary, but that if carried out it would be the means of clearing away a large quantity of some of the worst property in this part of London. One of the most formidable effects of the adoption of the undertaking would be the extinction to a great extent of Newport Market, the sanitary evils of which are said greatly to counterbalance the public convenience which it may be the means of conferring upon the inhabitants in the district.

CONTENTS.

Competitions and their Reform	PAGE 73	Competition News	PAGE 82
Book Reviews	75	A Visit to Dieppe and Pourville-sur-Mer	83
Overcrowding of the Architectural Profession	79	General News	84

Competitions and their Reform.

We believe that before long the R.I.B.A. will be forced to recognise that there are only two logical methods of conducting architectural competitions and that only a succession of "unfortunate incidents" can be anticipated if the *status quo* is maintained.

That *status quo* is untenable because it gives almost unlimited power to an assessor who often makes great mistakes in judgment for which no provision or adjustment is provided.

If this unlimited power of choice without appeal is to be maintained, there is only one method which is compatible with justice to competitors, which is to make it a fixed enactment that the instructions to competitors shall only be a series of suggestions which each competitor can adopt or discard. This being clearly understood, the assessor can obviously choose any design which appeals to him and may, with absolute fairness, ignore suggestions which at the outset he considered would be helpful to the competitors and necessary in the interests of the promoters.

One "binding condition" would alone remain, that the building should not exceed the limits of the site as shown on the plan provided, but this is so obvious that we imagine few assessors would fail to throw out a design which could not be placed on the ground allotted for it and few competitors would be foolish enough to produce such a design.

At present, in many cases, the sizes of accommodation laid down and the necessity of keeping within a limit of cost may conflict, but if the instructions to competitors contained no conditions this difficulty would be automatically eliminated. The instructions would, in fact, take very much the form of those given by a methodical and careful employer to the architect he employs. The instructions would give the competitors the promoter's general ideas as to their wants and nothing more. The above is the only system on which the assessor's present position of "papal infallibility" can be logically maintained, and there is much to recommend it, as it is simple and does away with most of the possible grounds for dispute.

The alternative to this is the more formal treatment of the instructions which would, as in most cases, at present contain both conditions binding on competitors and suggestions which they are free to adopt or not. If this—the present form of most competitions—is to be maintained, a Court of Appeal to protect competitors from the mistakes of an assessor becomes to our mind simply an act of justice. The "binding conditions" laid down usually by the assessor appointed have their exact counterpart in law with this important difference.

The average judge is not a law maker but may be placed in the position of having to enforce a law which he may consider incompatible with equity, yet he considers his duty is to put aside his personal views. Architects have before now neglected to secure a contract under seal from a public authority for whom they have actually carried out work and have had the case decided against them when they have brought an action to recover fees they had rightly earned. No one can doubt in such cases where the sympathies of a

judge were, but he has had to regard himself as an instrument of a system.

But there is much more reason why an assessor who has made his own laws should regard them as final and binding. He may, it is true, have fettered himself and automatically eliminated some of what seem to him after designs are sent in the most desirable conclusions, but if so, it is a mistake for which he and the promoters he had advised should suffer, and not the whole body of competitors whose work he is called upon to judge. The competitor also who has made a brilliant design which conflicts with conditions cannot complain. He has taken his chances in his hands and has relied on the known unwillingness of many assessors to throw out a good design.

It is important that in such cases as these that there should be a Court of Appeal, and it is to our mind very easy to constitute such a court. All that is required is to allow a written appeal to be made to the Competition Committee, an appeal which should be safeguarded from abuse by the payment of a substantial sum to be forfeited to the R.I.B.A. if the case is dismissed, but if it is proved should result in the quashing of an assessor's award and the appointment of another architect to adjudicate upon the whole of the designs sent in. And we think that both the competitors and promoters should have this right of appeal from a decision made.

We do not for a moment believe, as we have heard it alleged, that such a provision would shake the confidence of the promoters in an assessor's judgment.

It might be as reasonably argued that the existence of the Courts of Appeal would shake the confidence of the public in our judges or lead to the abandonment of legal proceedings, but we know such is not the case.

The R.I.B.A. from time to time experience great difficulty in securing the consent of promoters to the acceptance of an award as being final and binding. In our view this frequently arises from a fear that a mistake may be made, the results of which may be regrettable, but if it was clear that the architectural profession provided its own machinery for rectifying such errors, the objection would in most cases be done away with.

This system would also have other beneficial results. The assessor, whose decision had to be quashed, would presumably not be again appointed, while those who had stood the test would be proved competent. Those who take part in a competition at present often grumble at the result, but with the institution of an appeal they would be asked why they had not used the machinery provided. On the other hand, the successful competitor would have received an additional endorsement of the award by reason of its not being challenged.

We do not here allude to the oft discussed question of the merits of the single assessor as opposed to the jury system. Each method has its advocates and opponents, each may produce good or bad results in any given case, and the adoption of either would not militate against the advantages of possessing a fixed method of appeal. We believe the question we have alluded to must be thrashed out shortly and are convinced that the only solution lies along one of the two roads we have indicated.

Our Illustrations.

CHURCH AT HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE: SOUTH AND WEST ELEVATIONS WITH CROSS SECTIONS AND PLANS.

ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

A MODEL BAKERY. G. VAL MYER, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

"Won't Crack" Houses.

Mr. G. Underdown, an architect who has invented a new type of house which is apparently to be adopted at Norwich, gives the following guarantees: A house built on his system may be lifted 2 feet and dropped without a crack; it may be turned on its side and replaced without damage, while it can be lifted up and removed any reasonable distance after 30 days without a crack. This guarantee is given in respect to 200 houses which the Corporation is going to build, and they have now decided to have 1,000 more. We take it that the system employed is in all probability one of poured concrete, but we might wish, if the promises made are justified by results, that Gretna and other war communities had built there houses in the same manner, as they might then be utilised for meeting congested conditions elsewhere. Meanwhile, we shall be interested to note whether the poured concrete systems which have strong adherents, both here and in America, will make headway in England as time goes on.

"The Arts of Early England."

The second volume of Professor G. Baldwin Brown's work on "The Arts of Early England," has now been published by Mr. John Murray at 30s. net. Like all the author's work the book shows evidence of the most minute and thorough care. This new edition has been entirely recast and enlarged, and is illustrated by a very large number of blocks and a map showing the distribution of Saxon churches. While former editions dealt with 182 churches, investigation and research has increased this number to 240, every one of which is dealt with under its title in the alphabetical list at the end of the volume. The author deals with General Impressions, the Sources of Early Anglo-Saxon Architecture, the Early Churches of the Kentish Group, Northumbrian Churches and Early Monuments, Hexham, Possible Eighth or Early Ninth Century Churches, the Viking Age, Influences from Rhineland and Saxony, the Revival in the Tenth Century, and the Architecture of the Third Period, Datable Third Period Churches, Architecture in the Third Period and the Saxon-Norman Overlap; and the book will be found of great value by all who are interested in the beginnings of our national arts, while Professor Baldwin Brown's conclusions are always to be relied upon, as he is famed among investigators for his care and knowledge.

The Overcrowding of the Profession.

The Joint Committee of the R.I.B.A. and the Associations of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants have been investigating the alleged overcrowding of the architectural profession, and have issued a report with recommendations. They find that there are in England and Wales to-day about 12,000 architects as compared with 7,000 in 1885, an increase of over 70 per cent. as compared with an increase of the population in the same period of 46 per cent. The Committee consider that the total of 400 young architects, who are entering the profession every year, are the maximum number that can be absorbed, and their conclusion is that while steps should not be taken to prevent men entering the profession it and the public should be advised of this fact, and that stress should be put on the necessity for thorough and adequate training. The Committee also emphasises the fact that overcrowding does not arise from numbers passing through the recognised architectural schools whose course of training is relatively long and expensive, but it is recommended that the Board of Architectural Education should get in touch with art and

other unrecognised schools and urge the importance of thorough and efficient training. We believe that if it were possible to make a statement of the average architect's income this might prove the greatest deterrent of all!

Lord Curzon's Bequest.

One of Lord Curzon's last acts is characteristic of a man who, whatever his faults were, always thought and acted on great lines. His bequest of Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire, and Bodiam Castle, Sussex, to the National Trust, is an act of generous liberality, as they are among the great historic buildings of the country. Lord Curzon's greatest work was done in India, and possibly he thought of the practice of the Burmese builders who have frequently given gifts of bridges to the community, holding this a natural and fitting way of disposing of accumulated wealth.

But Lord Curzon's gifts are on a scale which is unusual here, where the average man desires to pass on to individuals the bulk of his possessions. Lord Curzon's interest in every branch of art, and especially architecture, is well known, and we as a profession recognise it with appreciation, his cast of mind which was incompatible with the attainment of widespread popularity, should not make any of us forget that a great Englishman has passed away, and by this gift shown his interest and appreciation of the art of architecture and the traditions of the past.

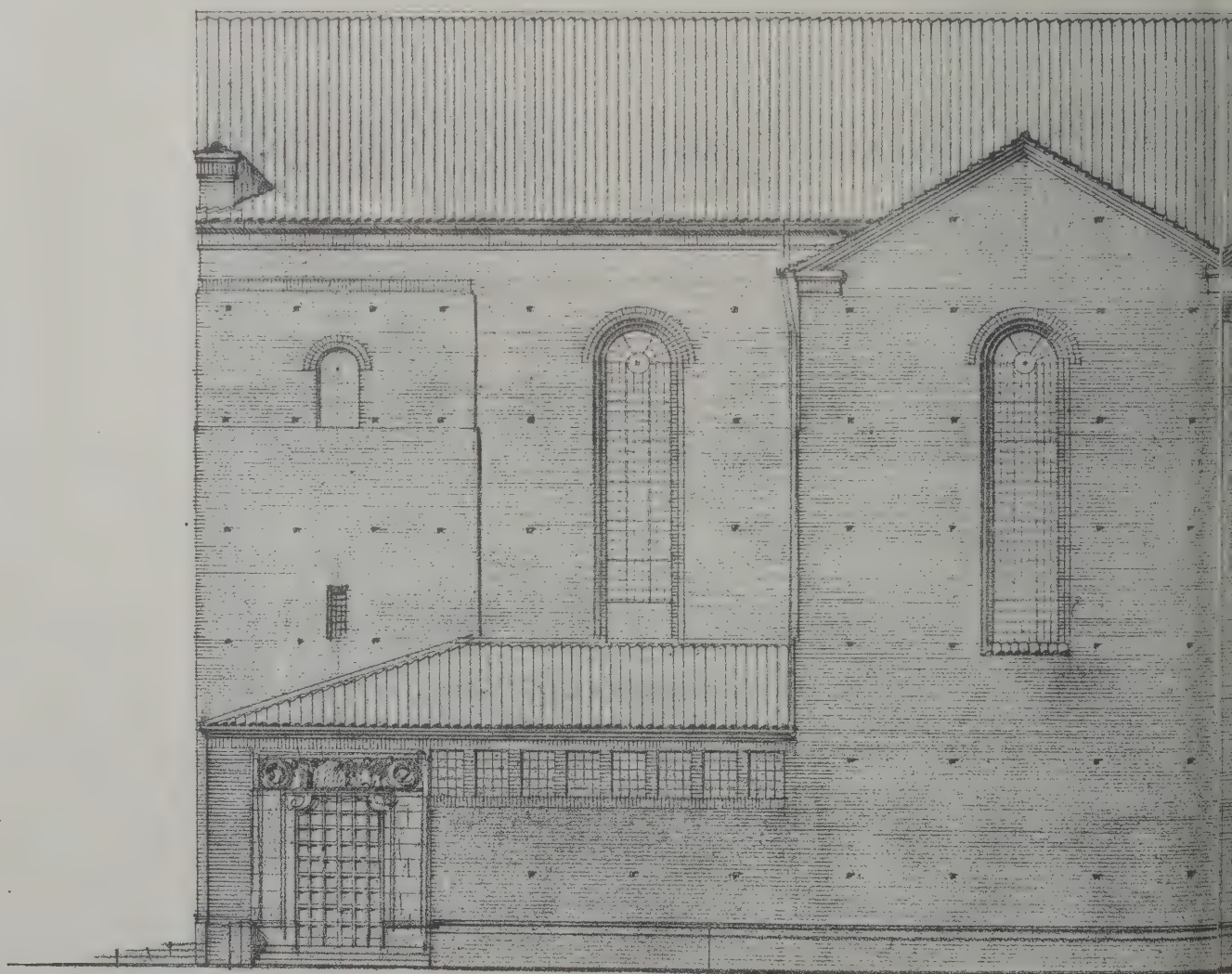
The "Bricklayers' Charter."

We understand that the Bricklayers' Union is going to stand out for the following points described as the "Bricklayers' Charter."—1, Payment for time lost during wet weather; 2, one hundred per cent. membership; 3, vigorous and combined opposition to any system of piece-work or payment by results; 4, a better housing policy with opposition to bad substitute houses; 5, a more vigorous apprenticeship policy. The Union graciously agree to recognise the existing wages agreement to be continued to February, 1926. These demands are amusing. Payment for time lost during wet weather is chiefly dependent on the general *quantum meruit* given for wages received—i.e., good output would make it easily possible. No. 2 concerns the Union alone. No. 3 really invalidates No. 1, because unless output can be improved employers will finally have to insist on payment by results or go out of business. No. 4 is quite impossible without better output, and if substitutes for brick buildings are employed it is chiefly owing to the bricklayers' attitude. The Union, consistent in its wrong-headedness, passed a resolution in favour of complete amalgamation in the building trade on a class and not a craft basis.

We sometimes think that there might be worse evils than a long continued strike, as the inconveniences and hardships of the strikers might serve to open their minds to the logic of facts.

BIRKENHEAD.—The Corporation have had correspondence with Sir Robert Lorimer, the assessor, in connection with the adaptation of the site selected for the erection of the proposed art gallery, and invited him to meet the special committee to inspect the site prior to the approval of the conditions of the competition for the erection of the building.—The sanction of the Ministry of Health is being sought for a loan of £63,750 for the acquisition of Arrowe Hall and Park containing an area of about 425 acres.—The Ministry of Health have held an inquiry into the scheme for purchasing property in Dale Street and Vincent Street for the extension of the central fire station.—Trunk mains are to be constructed from the Flaybrick Hill reservoir at a cost of £8,600.

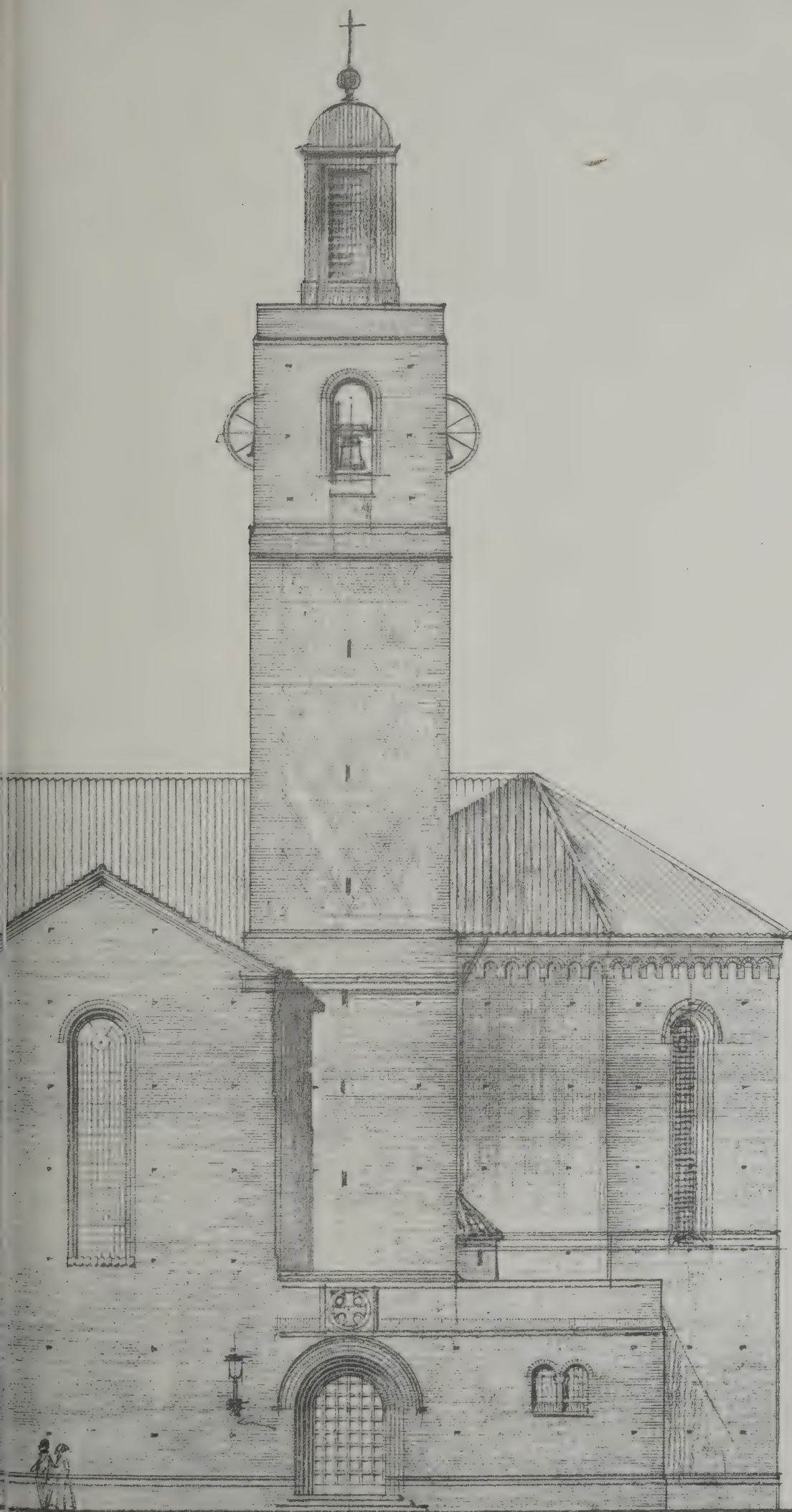
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CHURCH AT HINDLEY, LANC.

ROBERT ATKINSON

JULY 31st, 1925.

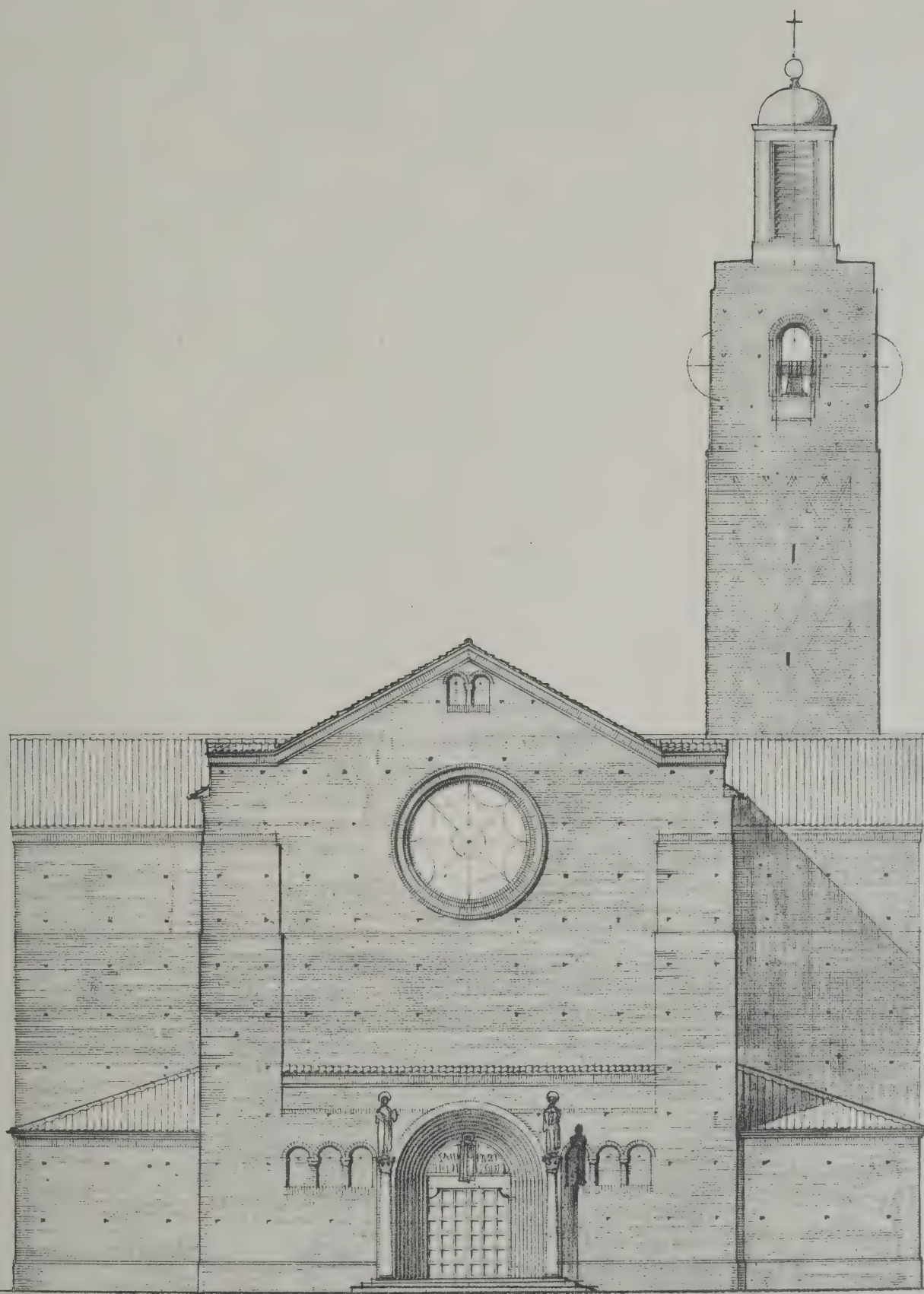


"INK-PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

SIRE. SOUTH ELEVATION.

F.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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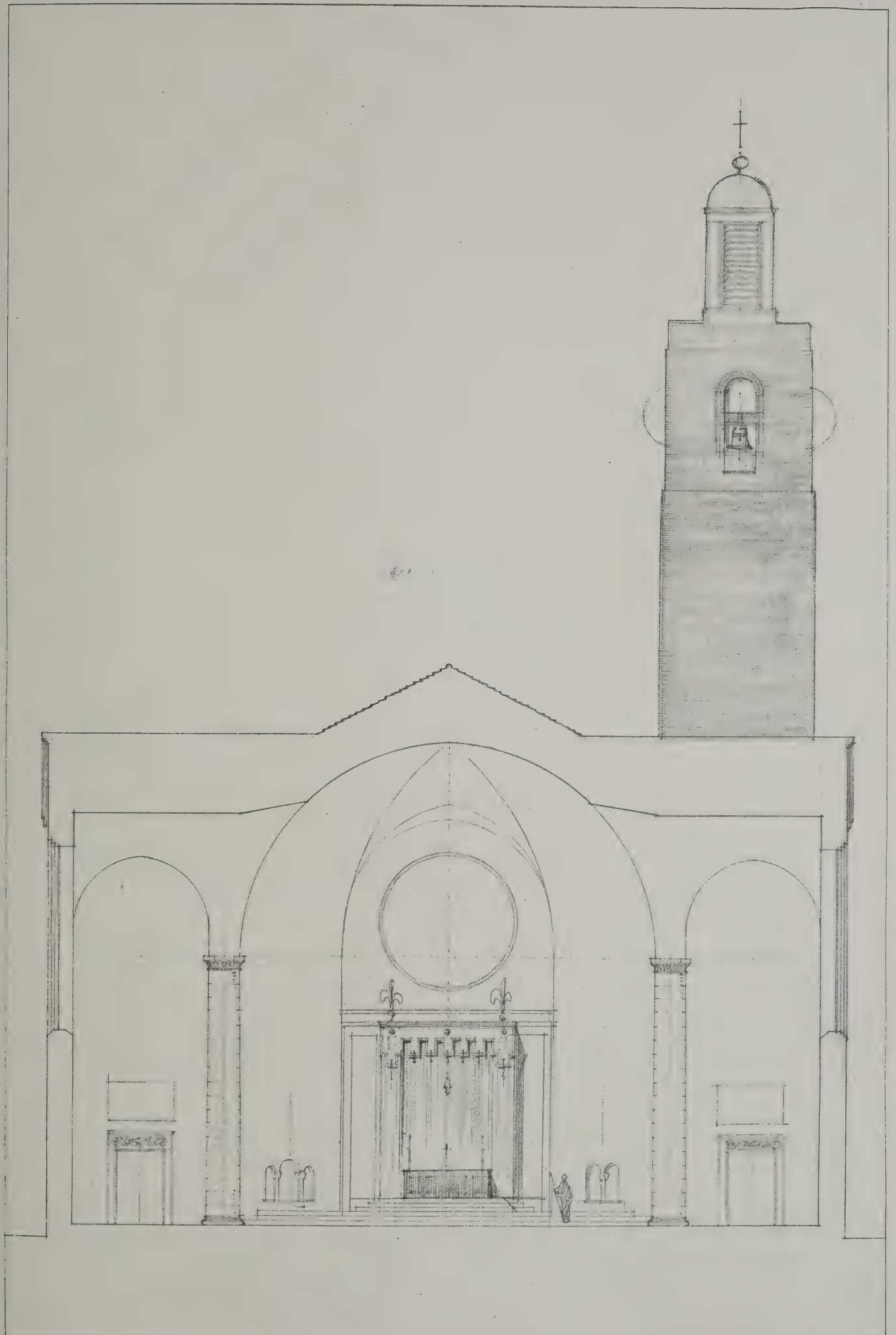


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CHURCH AT HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE. WEST ELEVATION.

ROBERT ATKINSON, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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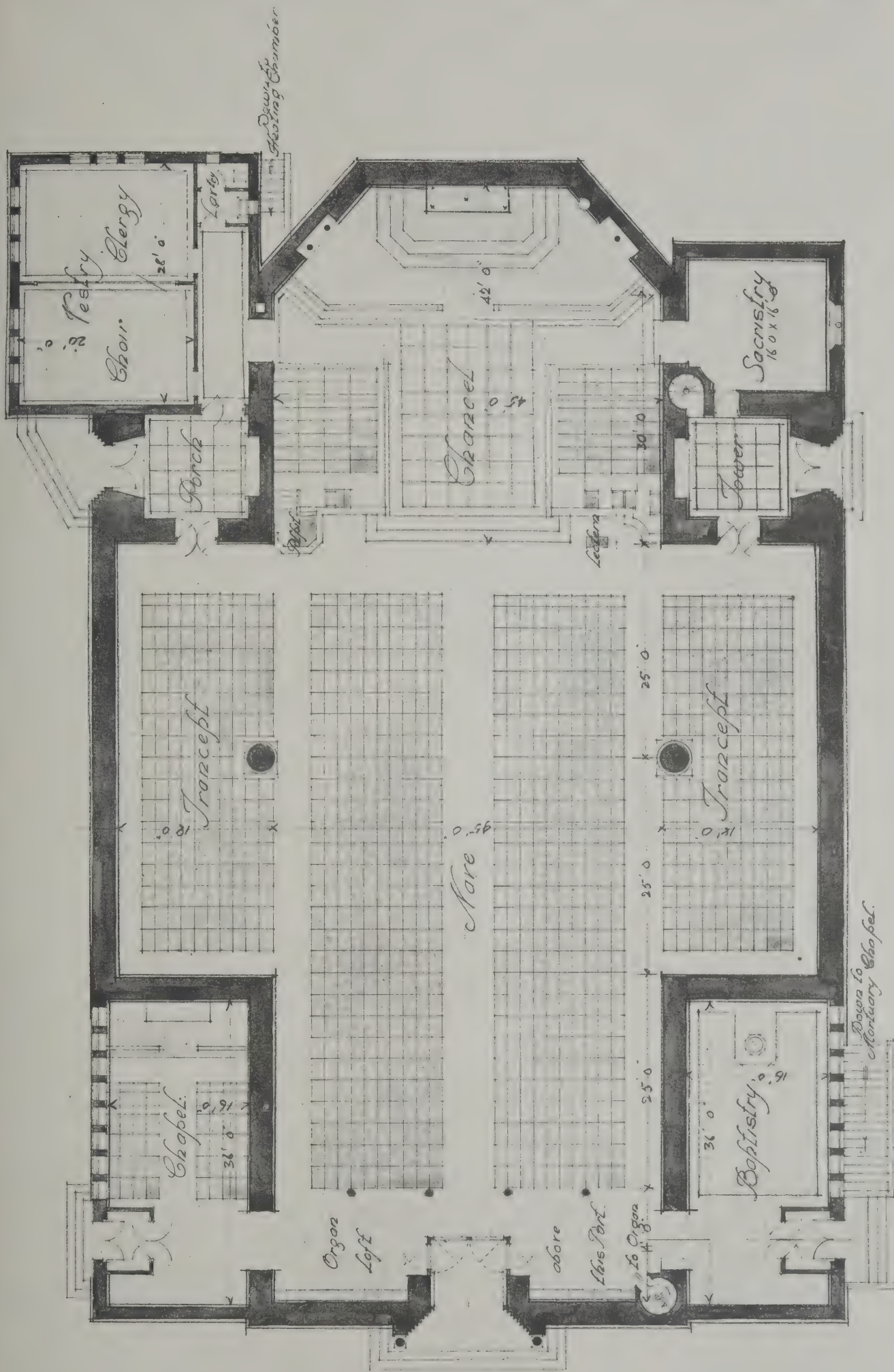


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CHURCH AT HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE. CROSS SECTIONS.

ROBERT ATKINSON, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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CHURCH AT HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE. PLAN.

ROBERT ATKINSON, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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"INK-PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3

A MODEL BAKERY.

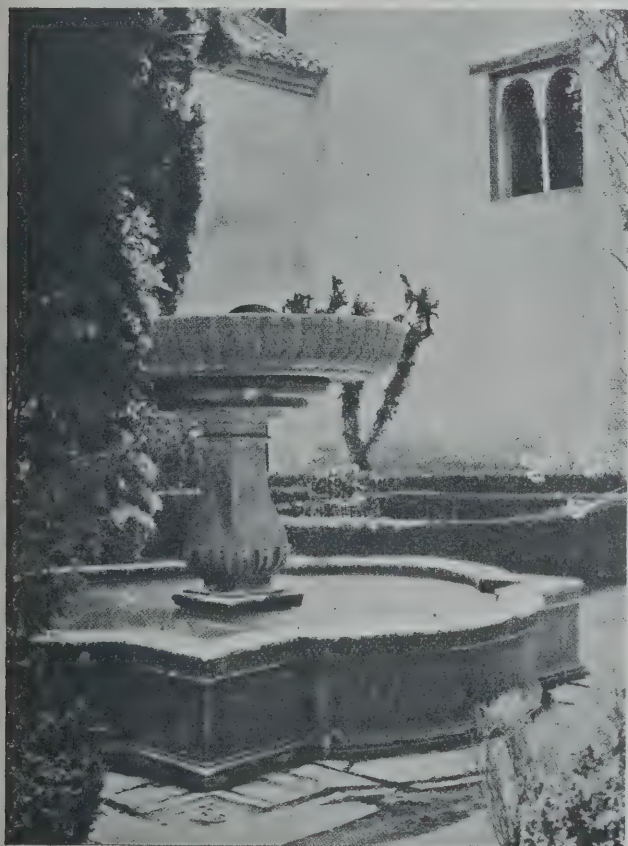
G. VAL MYER, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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Book Reviews

Spanish Gardens and Patios.*

The authors have produced a most interesting and informative work on Spanish Gardens, a subject on which there is no literature and practically no old illustrations to draw upon, so they have been forced to take a large series of photographs, those given numbering 175, and to make a series of plans. The Spanish Garden proper is that found in the South of Spain, as in the North gardens are frequently more or less like those of other European countries. The distinctive features of the Spanish garden are that it is an extension of the house, taking the form of a series of wall courts of small size, seldom more than 40 feet square, of which the high surrounding walls could be counted on to provide shade. The Spanish garden is of Moorish origin and was laid out not for purposes of display or the entertainment of guests but to provide pleasantly secluded space for the inmates and for women. Another feature which differentiates them from the gardens of Northern Europe is that flowers formed no part in their

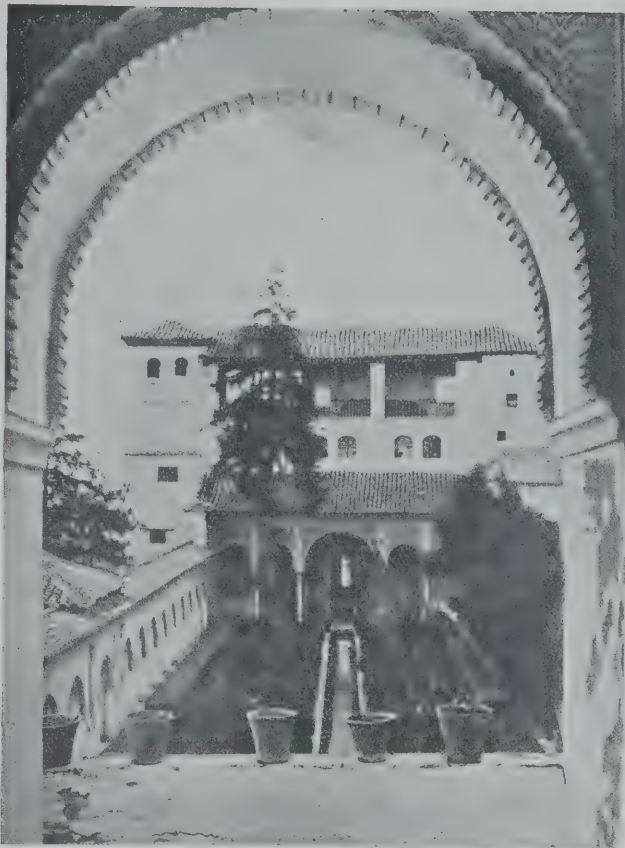


MARBLE FOUNTAIN CONSISTING OF A MOORISH TAZZA SUPPORTED ON A RENAISSANCE PEDESTAL.
THE ALHAMBRA, GRANADA.

composition. Trees and shrubs which could be depended on for shade form the chief feature. Colour there was, but it was not the colour of flowers but of ceramic work employed in tiled pathways and garden seats. The Andalusian garden was an urban and not rural creation, and chiefly exists in and near towns, and most of those that have survived are to be found in or near cities. Andalusian gardens are of two types, flat and hillside, Seville and Cordova being the best centres for the former and Granada and Ronda for the latter.

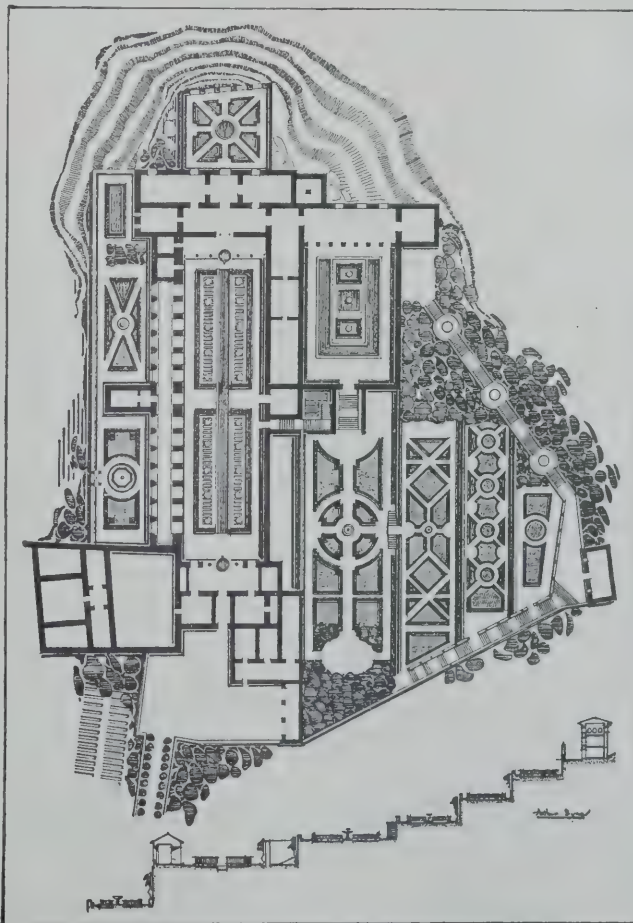
The theory of the flat garden is that of a series of outdoor rooms walled apart by masonry and open to the sky, often quite roofed over by low growing trees which are always evergreens and almost invariably with a fountain in the

* "Spanish Gardens and Patios," by Mildred Stapley Byne and Arthur Byne. J. B. Lippencourt Company, New York. 70s. net.



LOOKING INTO THE ENTRANCE OF THE GENERALIFE FROM THE GATE-LODGE.

centre. The hillside garden is a series of sequestered courts and open terracing, the level of the site determining which predominates, and sites being chosen for their view townwards.



PLAN OF THE GENERALIFE, GRANADA.



GARDEN OF THE CASA DEL REY MORO, RONDA.

Both types were cheap to construct and maintain and neither had any similarity to the Italian conception of a magnificent and stately layout, with plentiful steps and other architectural features. The book deals with the Patios of Cordova, Seville and Granada, the Del Rey Moro garden at Ronda and Les Ermitas, Sierra de Cordova, the Generalife at Granada, the Alcazar and other gardens at Seville, and some smaller gardens at Seville and Cordova, while the last section deals with the Patios and Gardens of Majorca.

The authors are to be congratulated on the production of a good and useful book which is a useful addition to the literature of the garden.

"Unknown Essex."*

"Unknown Essex" is the fourth contribution to the series by Donald Maxwell, "Unknown Warwickshire" and "Unknown Cornwall" having been written by M. Dormer Harris and C. E. Vulliamy, F.R.G.S., respectively. Donald Maxwell's other titles are Unknown Surrey, Kent, and Sussex. The charm of these volumes is very great indeed. The author has a very fascinating personality. Whilst he is more than likely to dominate any gathering but very few could be found to resent his engrossing ways. He is so full of vitality, enterprise and suggestions. It would be difficult to imagine any circumstance in the realm of travel that would find Mr. Maxwell beaten. In his writings he has been able to convey the essence of his own character, and the reader will be ever increasingly charmed by the clever way in which the author has contrived to weave interest around every little detail which has attracted his artistic sense. To possess the gift to charm the reader by your style is counted sufficient by many, but to be able to also sketch and illustrate the subjects in a masterly manner gives to the author unique opportunities which he grasps and uses to great purpose. The book expresses perfect harmony between the journalistic and artistic talents that are employed to render its pages attractive and full of interest. Many will desire to re-discover the places so ably described.

*"Unknown Essex." By Donald Maxwell. The Bodley Head. Price 15s. net.

Relation in Art.*

The preface to this remarkable book gives some indication of its extraordinary complexity, for in it is stated that the chief aim of the work is to look on plastic expression as a language to express forms of thought, which means are analysed and compared with those of other epochs. This form of co-ordination produces an æsthetic, but as an æsthetic unattached to a general philosophy is absurd, the author has reversed the usual method and leads up to a philosophy. In doing this he arrives at conclusions more or less in harmony with the principle of relativity, which he says is not surprising, as a mental outlook is a function of date.

We have attempted to read and follow the author in his analysis, but we have found our efforts fruitless. It is possible to write sentences which when carefully weighed can be followed, but which involve so severe a tax on the understanding as to leave us ignorant of the subject matter at the conclusion.

We believe the author is writing on a subject of which he has great knowledge, and we also believe he may have much valuable information to impart. But can we with advantage take in and absorb the meaning of such sentences as this:—"Whistler is the Ultima Thule of indefinite subjectivism expressed with equal vagueness in form in chiaro-scuro and in colour. Even in the tints of arrangement he took from Japan he has only been able to use such parts of them as are consistent with that illusion of nature, to which he is so closely bound, which is abhorred in Japan."

We are inclined to think that the printed page should call up to the mind a series of vivid pictures having a clear connection with one another. The author's method is rather to string together words, each one of which are as essential to his meaning as any one entry is to the correctness of a balance sheet, but while attempting to grasp the meaning of each word we absolutely fail to form a mental picture of the writer's meaning. We are afraid the book remains as unintelligible to us as a work in a language which we do not understand, and yet we imagine it to be the outcome of a knowledge and intelligence of which we should very probably be most grateful.

* "Relation in Art," being a suggested scheme of art criticism, with which is incorporated a sketch of the hypothetical philosophy or relation, by Vernon Blake. Oxford University Press. 18s. net.

Threeways, Wooburn Green, Bucks.

OSWALD P. MILNE, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

This house was built just after the war at a time when materials were very difficult to obtain. It was, therefore, decided to build the house with hollow concrete blocks and to cover them with rough plaster. To get the best advantage from concrete blocks a square and simple form is necessary, and thus the house is planned on these lines. The roof is covered with plain handmade tiles. The aspect is a little unusual owing to the fact that the view over the valley is to the north. However, the drawing room, while having windows to the north towards the view, gets sunlight from other windows placed south and west. The builders were: Messrs. Y. J. Lovell & Son, Marlow. The concrete blocks were supplied by Messrs. Thomas & Green, Ltd., Wooburn Green. Sanitary Fittings by Messrs. Tylors Ltd., York Road, N.7. Kitchen range being a "Kooksjoie" supplied by the London Warming Co., Ltd., Upper Rathbone Place, W.1.

In Endsleigh Gardens, opposite Euston Station, the Society of Friends has in hand a large block of new buildings for headquarters and lettable offices. Mr. Hubert Lidbetter, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect; and Grace & Marsh, Ltd., the general contractors. Central heating and electric lifts are to be installed. H. Sabey & Co. are the pulling-down contractors; Dorman, Long's are providing the steelwork; Portland Stone Firms, Ltd., the stone; London Brick Co. & Forders, Ltd., the Fletton bricks ("Phorpres"); and Marryatt-Scott lifts are to be supplied. Mottled brick facades are being introduced. A large hall will form a feature of the buildings.



THREEWAYS, WOOBURN GREEN, BUCKS. OSWALD P. MILNE, Architect.

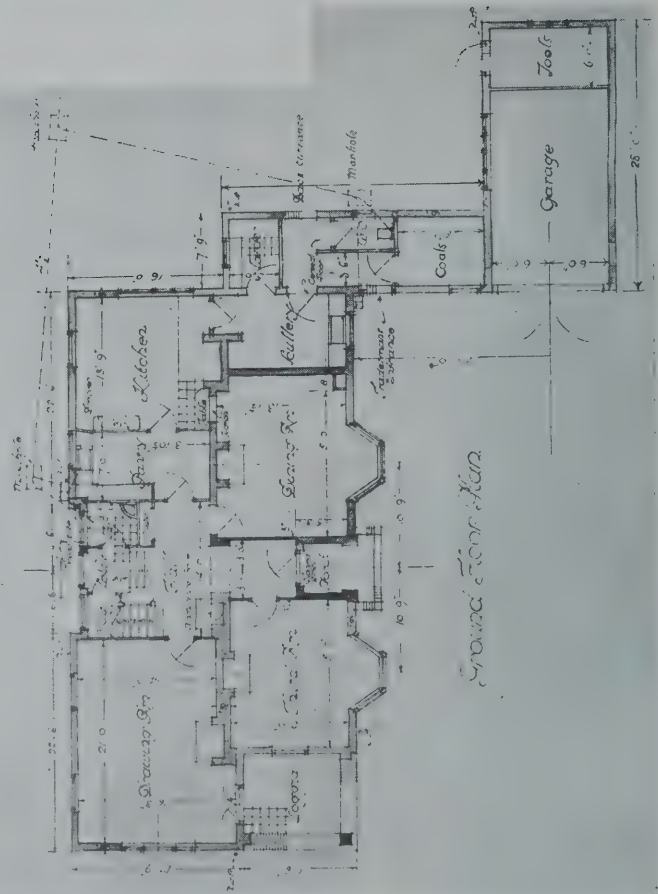


INTERIOR: HOUSE AT THREEWAYS, WOOBURN GREEN, BUCKS. OSWALD P. MILNE, Architect.

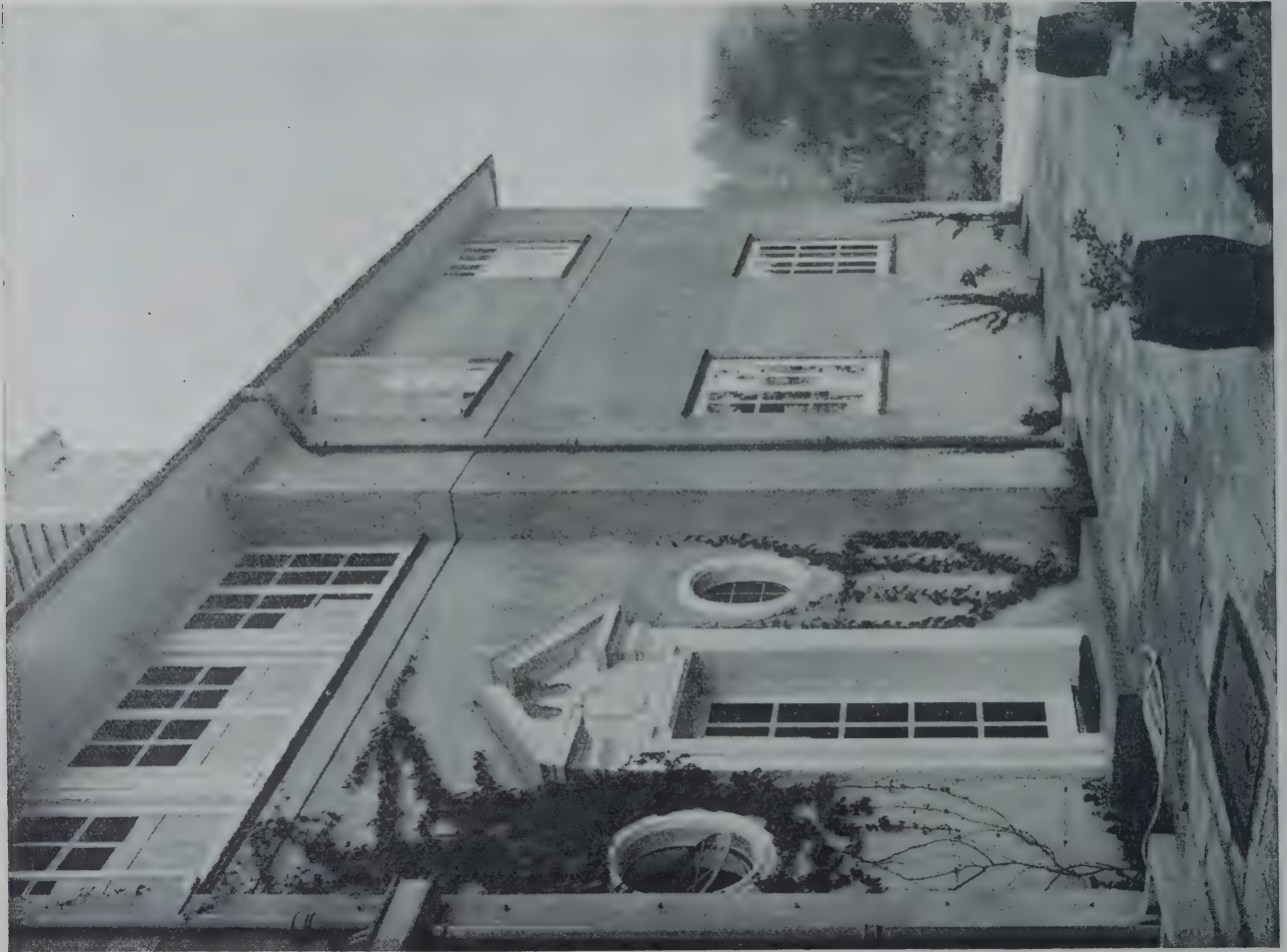
HOUSE AT WOOBURN GREEN Messrs Thomas & Green



First Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan



HOUSE AT THREEWAYS, WOOBURN GREEN, BUCKS. OSWALD P. MILNE, Architect.

Overcrowding of the Architectural Profession

Report of the Joint Committee of the R.I.B.A. and the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants.

The Joint Committee set up by the Council of the R.I.B.A. and the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union (now the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants) have held four meetings and have carefully considered their Reference, which was as follows:—

"That the Council set up a small joint Committee of six to examine and report within six months upon the alleged overcrowding of the profession. The Board of Architectural Education and the A.S.A.P.U. to be asked to give this Committee all the information and statistics they possess as to numbers of students in schools, pupils in offices, entrants for R.I.B.A. examinations, etc., and generally assist in the inquiry."

The Joint Committee was constituted as follows:—Mr. Maurice Webb, Mr. Arthur Keen, Mr. Francis Jones, representing the R.I.B.A.; Mr. Charles McLachlan, Mr. F. R. Jelley, Mr. J. W. Denington, representing the A.A.S.T.A.

From the statistics and other information carefully collated and placed at our disposal by the R.I.B.A. and the A.A.S.T.A., we beg to report that we have reached the following conclusions:—

1. That there are to-day some 12,000* architects, including 1,300 pupils and students in England and Wales, as against 7,000 forty years ago. These figures are obtained from the census returns, and represent an increase of 70·65 per cent. The population of England and Wales has increased from twenty-six millions to thirty-eight millions during the same period, representing an increase of 46·15 per cent. In other words, there is to-day one architect or potential architect to every 3,167 of population in England and Wales, compared with one to 3,714 forty years ago.

2. It appears, therefore, that the number of architects who describe themselves as such in the census returns has risen in a greater proportion than the population during the past forty years.

3. Approximately 400 would-be architects are now being trained in schools providing whole-time courses. So far as can be ascertained there are 900 pupils or learners in offices, and of this number about 100 are taking part-time courses in a recognised school of architecture.

This means that there are about 1,300 youths to-day in training for the profession.

These figures do not include the comparatively large number of persons who enter the profession irregularly or accidentally by promotion from the office-boy or clerical grades.

4. If three and a half years be taken as the average period of training before wage-earning begins, it will be seen that some 400 young architects presumably enter the profession every year. Of this number 300 have been pupils and 100 have undergone whole-time training in the recognised schools.

5. If the average professional life of an architect be taken as thirty† years, it follows, that sufficient men are being trained to maintain the total numerical strength of the profession at 12,000. This does not allow for wastage, which will probably account for the difference between this figure and that of the 10,700 architects who are earning a living to-day as professional men.

6. Admitting that these figures are incapable of absolute proof, the Joint Committee feel that at least as many men are entering the profession as the profession can at the present time absorb, and are of opinion that steps should be taken, not to limit the numbers entering the profession, but to warn the profession and the public of this fact, and to ensure that the training given to students wishing to become architects is thoroughly adequate.

7. From the evidence available, of which the salient parts have been quoted above, and from the evidence of those responsible for the keeping of employment registers, the Committee believe that there is no overcrowding so far as the highly-trained, competent man is concerned. But they believe also that there is a surplus of indifferently trained persons, especially amongst the junior grades.

8. Finally, we consider that the utmost importance attaches to the following points, which we believe should be widely circulated to the profession:—

(a) OVERCROWDING NOT CAUSED BY THE SCHOOLS.—The figures which we have examined prove beyond question that the

* This figure does not include 647 temporary architectural draughtsmen in the Civil Service who were returned in the census as Civil Servants.

† This figure is somewhat conjectural, but the Committee believe, in the absence of accurate information, which they made every effort to obtain, that it is a reasonable average.

recognised architectural schools are in no way contributing to the overcrowding of the profession. Owing to their lengthy courses and to the cost of maintaining a school student away from home, the tendency is, if anything, the other way. As an illustration of this opinion it may be mentioned that in the districts where the pupilage system still survives, namely, everywhere, except in London and Liverpool, there are only some 25 whole-time students per annum who are passing through the schools.

We therefore recommend:

(i) *That the Board of Architectural Education be requested to get into touch with all unrecognised schools, art schools and polytechnics with a view to the improvement of the architectural courses at such schools.*

(ii) *That letters be addressed to headmasters of all public and secondary schools, to the Association of Headmasters and to all education authorities setting forth the method of entry into the architectural profession.*

(b) TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE.—Architects in practice should be reminded of the unfairness of taking a boy into an office in a junior capacity without making adequate arrangements for his education and training if he shows a bent for architecture.

In this connection the Committee desire to record their whole-hearted support of the present proposals of the Board of Architectural Education for the establishment of Maintenance Scholarships, which they consider will be invaluable as a means of encouraging the growth of whole-time training.

(c) CASUALISATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—There is a growing tendency to casualise employment in architects' offices. Assistants are engaged for special work for a few months only, and are then cast aside to swell the employment registers. We recommend that private practitioners should be urged to avoid short-term employment of assistants wherever possible, and to remember the evils in the building and other industries of which casual labour has been the cause.

(d) INTERCHANGE OF ASSISTANTS.—It is suggested that by local co-operation more particularly between the Allied Societies and the branches of the A.A.S.T.A., some system of interchange of assistants between offices might relieve the present difficulties of casual labour.

We recommend that the Allied Societies be urged to elaborate some such system as this.

We also recommend that students, on termination of their pupilage, be recommended for and aided to obtain employment, if possible in some town where he can obtain useful experience and further professional tuition in some good evening school.

(e) TEMPORARY OFFICIAL STAFFS.—Government Departments and municipal authorities are particularly prone to the engagement of temporary staffs, a practice from which many cases of extreme hardship have resulted and will result. For example, at the present time the War Office, the Admiralty, H.M. Office of Works, the Board of Trade, the Air Ministry, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Health and the Post Office employ 647 temporary and unestablished draughtsmen.

If the system cannot altogether be avoided, these authorities should be urged to alleviate the hardships which it entails.

(f) EDUCATION OF PUPILS AND ASSISTANTS.—We recommend that all architects' assistants who have not passed the R.I.B.A. examinations should be urged to do so.

We also recommend that no articulated pupils should be accepted in an architect's office under the age of 17 years, and unless they possess qualifications of the standard required for Probationership of the R.I.B.A. or for entrance to a recognised school of architecture.

We also suggest in this connection that the Board of Architectural Education should be invited to consider whether it is not possible to provide some kind of training syllabus for the use and guidance of architects who take in pupils. This suggestion applies particularly to districts where school education is not easily attainable.

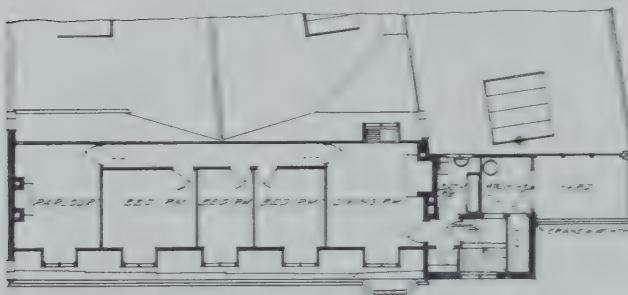
(g) INDENTURES.—We recommend the Council of the R.I.B.A. to resist the practice of incorporating in indentures clauses restrictive of future practice within a certain prescribed area, and to encourage the use of the R.I.B.A. Form of Articles of Pupilage.

(h) OVERCROWDING IN SCOTLAND.—Owing to the difficulty of obtaining up-to-date statistics and other information, Scotland has not been included in the field covered by this report, which deals with England and Wales only.

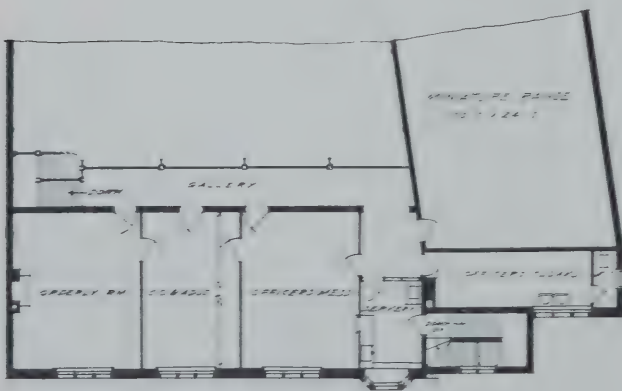
We recommend that the Incorporation of Architects of Scotland be invited to initiate a similar inquiry into the question of overcrowding in Scotland.



*DRILL HALL at NEWBURN-ON-TYNE:
FOR THE TERRITORIAL ARMY ASSOCIATION
OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND:*



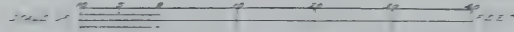
ATTIC FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



DRILL HALL AT NEWBURN-ON-TYNE. GRAHAM & HILL, Architects.

GRAHAM & HILL, ARCHT.
6 GILSON SQUARE
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE



DRILL HALL AT NEWBURN-ON-TYNE. GRAHAM & HILL, Architects.

New Drill Hall at Newburn-on-Tyne.

GRAHAM & HILL, ARCHITECTS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

This Drill Hall has been erected by the Northumberland Territorial Army Association as headquarters for the 4th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers, and is situated in Rupert Street, Newburn-on-Tyne. The building is faced with 2½ inch red wire-cut sandfaced bricks from Scotswood and has freestone dressings. The front block is covered with "single-Roman" tiles, main hall with Welsh slates, and side wing with a "Ruberoid" flat.

The following accommodation has been provided:—Drill hall, 90 feet by 45 feet, with redwood floor, suitable for dances and other entertainments; miniature rifle range, 100 feet by 24 feet; caretaker's house of five rooms; waggon shed; stores; offices; and officers', N.C.O.'s and men's recreation rooms and lavatories.

The general contractors were Messrs. Thomas Curry & Son, and the following specialists were employed:—Stone carving, Mr. R. Hedley; wrought iron, Messrs. J. G. and E. P. Alder; electric lighting, Messrs. Robson & Coleman; all of Newcastle-on-Tyne. Steel roof trusses, Messrs. J. Shewell & Co.'s Successors, Ltd., Darlington; heating, Messrs. The Brightside Foundry, Ltd., Sheffield; flat roofing, The Ruberoid Co., Ltd., London.

Correspondence.

Landed Property Registration Bill.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—May I request the hospitality of your columns in order to draw the attention of those practising the profession of auctioneer, surveyor or estate agent, to a paragraph appearing in the Law Society's Report for 1925? Particularly is this extract of interest to those who in addition carry on some other business.

LANDED PROPERTY PRACTITIONERS (REGISTRATION) BILL.

"Further discussions with the Surveyors' Institution have occurred with regard to this Bill. These have now culminated in a letter from the Surveyors' Institution stating that the Committee promoting the Bill had unhappily found that there was a fundamental difference of principle between the Committee and the Council of the Law Society, which is incapable of being reconciled, and must be adjudicated upon by Parliament. The letter states further that while the Committee will take steps to

have the Bill introduced into Parliament in due course, they do not propose for various reasons to do so in the Session of 1925."

It may be remembered that the Bill above referred to was first introduced in the House of Commons in 1923. It was presented by Sir Edgar Chatfield-Clarke, and supported by the following:—Colonel Du Pre, Mr. Emlyn-Jones, Mr. Harbord, Mr. Hinds, Sir Arthur Holbrook, Colonel Perkins, Sir Philip Pilditch, Mr. Charles Roberts, Mr. de Rothschild, Sir Sydney Russell-Wells, and Mr. Thornton. Had the Bill been passed into law it is more than probable that thousands of those who had practised for many years would have found themselves precluded from registration and thus seriously hampered in their efforts to earn a livelihood in the profession. The Incorporated Society of Auctioneers and Landed Property Agents (Incorporated by special licence dated November 11, 1924) was formed specifically with the object of opposing the Bill, and has so far succeeded. The Society now numbers some 800 members of recognised standing in the profession. Its President for 1925-26 is Sir R. Woodman Burbidge, Bart. The Chairman of the Council is Capt. E. K. House, Estates Manager, Messrs. W. Whiteley, Ltd. Branches have already been formed in most of the country districts, and indeed the vast majority of the members hail from the provinces. It will be seen from the Law Society's Report (drawn up, of course, entirely independent of the body I represent) that the Bill is only dormant and the need for self-protection is as great as ever. It is therefore vital that support of the Society shall be fully maintained and membership increased. Given this co-operation on the part of the profession, the Council of the Society will have their hands strengthened, and be sufficiently influential to offer strong opposition to the Bill when it is once more presented. Apart from the immediate need for protection caused by the Bill I would submit to the profession the need for the existence of a body that, while scrutinising most carefully applications for membership, is less conservative and broaderminded in its policy than are the older institutions. Finally, I should like to draw attention to the fact that the Society has already formulated a Syllabus of Examination, and it will be possible for approved students, who are successful in passing, to take the degree of Associate at the age of 21. I shall be pleased to give further information about the Society to those who care to communicate with me.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN STEVENSON.

General Secretary The Incorporated Society of Auctioneers and Landed Property Agents.

42 Finsbury Square,

London, E.C.2.

July 24, 1925.

Competition News.

COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE HOSPITAL—PROPOSED NEW WARD BLOCK.

The following is a copy of a notice issued by the Royal Institute of British Architects:—"Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above competition because the conditions are not in accordance with the published regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions."

THE VALETTA LAY-OUT COMPETITION.

ASSESSORS AWARD AND REPORT.

Having carefully inspected the whole of the areas covered by the lay-out scheme for which the Government invited competitive designs, in October, 1924, and having now completed our examination of the 14 sets of plans and accompanying documents submitted for our judgment, in strict accordance with the conditions appointed by the Ministry, we have the honour to report our award as follows:—

After very careful consideration of the 14 schemes so submitted, and explained by the drawings and accompanying documents, we have no hesitation in awarding the first premium of £1,000 to the scheme "Calypso":

Messrs. James Burford, A.R.I.B.A., and S. Rowland Pierce, of 3 Staple Inn, Holborn Bars, London, W.C.1, and the second premium of £500 to the scheme "Carpent Tua Poma Nepotes":

Monsieur Rene Danger, of 6 Rue d'Angouleme, Paris and, further, in recommending that indemnities of £100 each be awarded to the schemes bearing respectively the mottoes or devices: "S. Giorgio e Floriana" (Signor Di Segni, of Regio Ufficio dei Lavori Pubblici, Tripoli); "Quest" (below a ship) (Monsieur Jacques Alleman, of Rue Ludovic Boulleux, Bethune, France); "Urbem Servare Necesse" (Monsieur Alberte Laferla, 113 Strada Levante, Valletta, Malta).

This award being made upon the condition that competitors premiated or indemnified shall satisfy us that they are the *bona fide* authors of the schemes to which their names are attached (*Vide* No. 14 of the conditions issued to all competitors).

In making this award, in consonance with our duties as appointed assessors of the competition, we desire to recognise the high average of ability shown by the authors of the schemes above recommended for premia or indemnities, in dealing with the peculiar difficulties of the areas indicated for exploitation, in respect of constant, and sometimes acute divergence of levels, of the many complications arising from reserved territories within the limits of those areas, and of the irregularity of the boundaries.

We further desire to say that most of the competitors have shown a successful handling of several of the many difficult problems involved, whether practical or æsthetic, while respecting the conditions imposed.

EDWARD WARREN,
PATRICK ABERCROMBIE,
Assessors.

COMPETITION FOR PARISH HALL. BRAUNTON, N. DEVON.

Architects are invited to submit designs for above. Proposed cost of works, £2,500. Premiums offered, £25 and £10 respectively for designs placed first and second by fully qualified assessor.

Conditions of competition and site plan will be forwarded by the undersigned on receipt of deposit of one guinea (deposit returned on receipt of *bona-fide* design). Closing date, September 1, 1925.

G. G. CLARKE,
Clerk to the Parish Council.

Braunton, N. Devon.
July 20, 1925.

OPEN COMPETITION FOR DESIGNS OF MARBLE MEMORIALS.

With a view to encourage the production of original and artistic memorials, the Marble Merchants Association invite competitive designs for Cemetery Memorials, suitable for reproduction in marble from craftsmen, artists, draughtsmen, designers and others.

The object of this competition, which is open to everyone, is to obtain good, artistic, original and effective designs, within the reach of the purchasing power of the general public. A design of outstanding merit although more costly will also be eligible.

Any number of designs may be submitted by the same competitor and cash prizes will be awarded as follows:—Designs placed in 1st Class, £5 for each design; designs placed in 2nd Class, £3 for each design; designs placed in 3rd Class, 30s. per each design.

Designs must be drawn to the scale of 1½ ins. to the foot, with larger scale details of mouldings and enrichment. A perspective view may also be included. Drawings must not bear any indication of the identity of the competitor. They must be accompanied by a sealed envelope, in which is enclosed the name and address of competitor. They are to be addressed to The Secretary, The Marble Merchants Association, Monument House, Monument Square, London, E.C., and marked "Competition."

Designs will be judged by the Committee of the Association. Successful competitors will be required to supply full size details. Successful designs will become the property of the Association, together with the copyright. All unsuccessful designs will be returned in due course, but the Association cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage in transit.

The Committee reserves to itself the right not to make any award should the designs, in their opinion, be of insufficient merit. The decision of the Committee as to the number of the prizes and all other matters concerning the awards will be final.

The first adjudication will be made on or after September 21, 1925. The second adjudication will be made on or after October 21, 1925, and the third, on or after November 21, 1925.

If the competition should arouse sufficient interest and give satisfactory results, it may be continued for a further period.

R.I.B.A. Notes.

AMENDMENTS OF THE BYE-LAWS OF THE R.I.B.A.

By an order of the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council dated July 10, 1925, the following amendments to Bye-law 29, with regard to the representation of Dominion Allied Societies on the R.I.B.A. Council and the addition of the chairman of the four Standing Committees were approved:—

Bye-law 29 (d) to be amended by the addition of the following words:—

"Provided always that in the event of the representative nominated by any such Society being absent from the United Kingdom such Society shall be entitled to nominate a member of the Council of the Royal Institute for the time being who is practising in the United Kingdom to represent it upon the Council during the absence of the representative first so nominated as aforesaid."

Bye-law 29 to be amended by the addition of the following words after paragraph (g):—

"(h) The chairman for the time being of each of the four Standing Committees referred to in Bye-law 52."

Notes from the Minutes of the Council Meeting.

JULY 20, 1925.

R.I.B.A. SOIRÉE.

It was decided that the occasion of the completion of the amalgamation of the Society of Architects with the R.I.B.A. should be marked by a soirée to be held in the R.I.B.A. Galleries in the coming autumn.

BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE, 1925.

A cordial vote of thanks and appreciation was passed in favour of the Northern Architectural Association for having organised and carried out the arrangements for the Conference with such conspicuous success.

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE SOUTH-WEST OF ENGLAND.

Mr. J. Leighton Fouracre [F.] was appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. as a member of the Court of Governors of the University College of the South-west of England for the three years beginning on August 1, 1925.

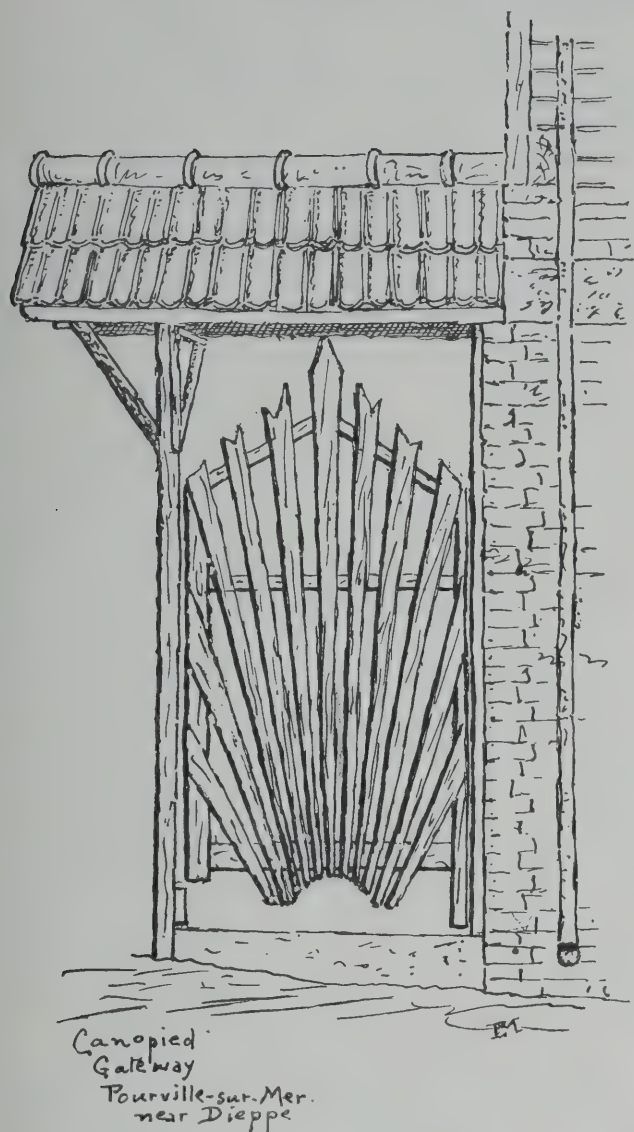
THE INSTITUTION OF PUBLIC LIGHTING ENGINEERS.

Mr. W. Alban Jones, President of the Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society, was appointed as the representative of the R.I.B.A. at the second annual meeting and conference to be held at Leeds on the 14th, 15th and 16th September, 1925.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

An application from the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors for affiliation with the Surveyors' Institution has been approved by the Council of the latter body. The South African Institute is a professional society of high standing in the colony, and was incorporated in 1908. It includes upon its governing body six members of the Surveyor's Institution. Under the conditions of affiliation members of the colonial society, who are not members of the Institution, will not be given any personal connection with the latter. The Council of the South African Institute will, however, supervise the Institution examinations in the colony, and in other ways co-operate with the Council of the Institution in furthering the interests of the profession.

A Visit to Dieppe and Pourville-sur-Mer.

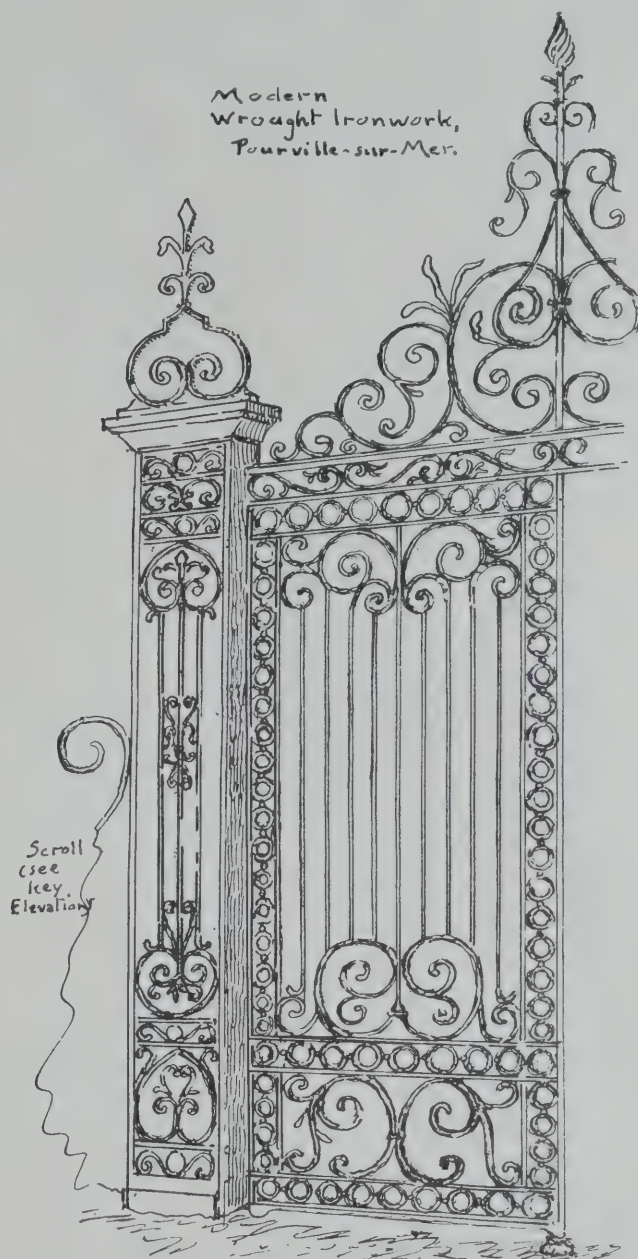


The visit arranged for the British International Association of Journalists was in reality not to Dieppe, but to Pourville, which is situated some three kilometres from the well-known ancient town. But an extended visit to the former small village could only be tolerated by using it as a base for enviroining excursions. After all, what can be expected of a small place of about 100 to 150 permanent residents? The seasonal population, it is true, mounts to some thousands, for the sea-front at Pourville is decidedly attractive, and its propinquity to Dieppe is an added charm. The Grand Hotel, too, is well up to date in its style of accommodation, its fare and its attendance; M. Menage, its architect, has seen to it that visitors shall have nothing of which to complain, as far as lies within the architect's power.

But let a moment's consideration be given to what any architect may find to attract him by a few days' sojourn here. He will find numerous examples of genuine half-timber construction, of quaint canopied gateways (all of them modern), some artistic instances of thatching (and of reed thatching at that), and many examples also of roof-tiling in the style known as "Marseilles" tiling. There is, too, at least one example of modern wrought-iron entrance gates to an estate, which of itself and by itself would render a visit to Pourville desirable.

Dieppe, of course, deserves more prolonged inspection. Its two old churches of St. Jacques and St. Remi are replete with interest, and especially the former, for its various styles are genuinely periodic, whilst in the case of St. Remi its various Gothic and Renaissance styles seem to have been all executed in the seventeenth century; if that could be momentarily forgotten the church might exceed in interest

St. Jacques itself. Then, too, the castle deserves attention; and the numerous old houses and other features should be noted. In fact, there is much for the architect to sketch at both places.



WILLESDEN.—The Urban District Council have now considered tenders for the erection of one hundred houses of various methods of construction and the Housing Committee recommends a contract with the Calway Construction Co. at the average price of £497 10s. per house, to be built to the Council's own plans and requirements. The walls will be hollow and of monolithic construction. The outer and inner skins will be 3½ inches thick with a 2 inch cavity between, making a wall of 9 inches thick. The material will be ordinary breeze concrete, rough cast outside and plastered inside. Floors, roofs and other details will be similar to those of ordinary brick houses.—In connection with this competition the Committee invited those who quoted to submit tenders for the erection of specimen houses, and it is now proposed to ask Mr. E. M. Roberts, 34 Bishopsgate, to erect two at £470 each, and Messrs. John Laing & Son, of Carlisle, to erect two at £564 each.—The Fire Brigade Committee are considering the conversion of fire plugs to hydrants, the cost being estimated at £8,000.—Plans passed:—24 houses, Burnley Road, for Messrs. Pearce & Taylor; 10 garages, Anson Road, for Messrs. F. Walters, Ltd.; 12 houses, Anson Road, for Messrs. F. Walters, Ltd.; additions to factory Oxcgate Lane, for Lego, Ltd.; rebuilding, after fire, shop and house, 90 St. John's Avenue, for Messrs. Greenhill & Northey; rebuilding Grey Horse, Regent Street, for Mr. Percy Pratt, on behalf of Messrs. Truman Hanbury & Buxton, Ltd.

General News.

ASHTON IN MAKERFIELD.—Plans have been approved for new class-rooms and alterations to the Park Lane Unitarian Schools. Architect: Mr. Frank Rose, Naylor Street, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The work of demolishing the property in Stamford Street for the new Manchester and County Bank is now proceeding. The new building has been designed by the Bank's architects, Messrs. Mills and Murgatroyd, of 23 Strutt Street, Manchester, and the contract has been secured by Messrs. E. Marshall & Sons, Ltd., of Cockbrook Saw Mills.

BALHAM.—The following plans have been passed by the Wandsworth Borough Council: 78 houses, Hebdon Road; 64 in Ansell Road; 8 in Glenburnie Road; and 51 in Lingwell Road, for Messrs. Swain & Selley; 34 garages, Langroyd Road, for Messrs. H. A. Key & Son.

BATTERSEA.—The Borough Council have decided to proceed with the erection of a second block of tenements in connection with the Plough Road improvement scheme at a cost of £4,385.

BEXHILL.—Earl de la Warr is to erect twelve subsidy cottages at Little Common.—Plans passed: additions, Bell Hill Wesleyan Chapel, for Mr. J. E. Maynard; additions, Wilton Court Hotel, Marina, for Messrs. Wall, Callow & Callow; library, St. John's School, Collington Avenue, for Mr. J. E. Maynard; science and art block, St. Ives, Elmstead Road, for Mr. G. H. Gray; additions, York Hotel, Station Road, for Messrs. H. Ward & Son.

BIRMINGHAM.—An elementary school is to be erected at Erdington at a cost of £30,000.—An elementary school for 1,200 children is to be erected at a cost of £34,000 at Bordsley Green.—A school for 800 children is to be erected at Hall Green at a cost of £11,000.—A site at Fast Pits Farm, Yardley, has been acquired for the erection of an elementary school.—A school clinic is to be erected in Sheep Street at a cost of £8,000.—The governors of King Edward's Grammar School, Camp Hill, have prepared a scheme for enlargements to cost £6,500.—A site near West End Park has been acquired for the erection of a branch library.—A site on the Stapleton Farm estate has been acquired for a new school.—Mr. A. J. Huckle, of Alum Rock Road, is leasing land from the Corporation in Ward End Road for the erection of four shops and houses.—Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd., have offered the Corporation a free site for a maternity centre and a private Trust has offered £8,000 for the erection and equipment of the centre.

BLACKBURN.—The Lancashire Industrial Motors, Ltd., are to erect a new garage and waiting room at Whalley. Architects: Messrs. Pollard & Pollard, of Padiham, Lancashire.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Messrs. Reynolds & Tomlins, architects, are to erect shops in Wimborne Road.—The Borough Engineer is to advertise for tenders for the erection of 16 blocks of flats, each block containing 4 flats, and 16 pairs of houses on the Lower Charminster Road estate.—Tenders will shortly be invited for the second contract of the Pavilion scheme. The Director of Education has reported as to sites for new schools.—Plans passed: alterations, Midland Hotel, Queen's Road, for Bournemouth Temperance Hotels, Ltd.; 4 houses, Dunkeld Road, for Mr. St. John Sampson; 7 houses, Strouden Road West, for Messrs. G. J. Luckham & Son; glazed roofs, Royal Bath Hotel, for Mr. H. Russell-Cotes; additions, Donegal Works, Hankinson Street, for Messrs. H. C. Skerratt, Ltd.; additions, Regent Hotel, Cliff Cottage Road, for the Misses Henwood; workshops and flats, Boscombe Grove Road, for Mr. F. Burridge; 3 houses, Naseby Road, for Mr. H. Mitchell; 4 houses, Glenmoor Road, for Mr. A. Barnes.

BRADFORD.—The Education Committee are to obtain plans for a school clinic on the site near the Lower Grange housing estate.—Having had a report on the condition of the Low Level conduit from Barton to Gilstead the Corporation propose to replace the original stone culvert with steel tubes at a cost of £6,000.—Tenders are being invited for the erection of 166 houses on the Lower Grange estate.

BURY.—A scheme has been commenced at Elton for the erection of 97 houses to suit the working class community. Mr. John Taylor, of Elton Grange, is erecting the property, which will be in blocks of seven or eight, according to the facilities of the site, which is behind Newbold Road, off Ainsworth Road in Lily Street, Ramsey Street and Douglas Street. The houses will be four-roomed—two rooms on each floor, with bath-room and lavatory. The architect is Mr. J. Barnes, Ainsworth Road.

CADISHEAD.—The Church people of St. Mary's, Cadishead, are to have a new edifice. A scheme is on foot for the erection of a stone church in lieu of the present iron structure. The plans are in the hands of Mr. R. Martin, the diocesan surveyor, of 90 Deansgate, Manchester.

CAMBERWELL.—Camberwell Productions, Ltd., have a proposal for remodelling the Camberwell Empire, Denmark Hill.

CITY OF LONDON.—A pipe subway is to be constructed between St. Martin's le Grand and Gresham Street, at a cost of £25,000.—A scheme has been prepared for widening Bishopsgate to 60 feet in front of Nos. 87 to St. Botolph's Church on the West, and Nos. 108 to 126 on the east side at a cost of £141,000.—Plans have been prepared for completing the widening of Godliman Street in front of Nos. 3, 5, 7 and 9 at a cost of £28,000.—The frontage line of Garlick Hill and Little Trinity Lane is to be improved in connection with the proposed rebuilding by the Hudson Bay Co. of premises in those streets.—An improvement is to be effected in association with the proposal of the Metropolitan Railway Co. to rebuild Aldgate Station.—The City of London Schools Committee are being asked to consider the advisability and possibility of removing the City of London School for Girls from its present site to a portion of the site now occupied by Bethlem Hospital, North Lambeth.—Mr. Frank J. Potter has a scheme for erecting a building in Little Montague Court, Little Britain.

CROYDON.—The Corporation have decided to erect a further twelve cottages at the mental institution at a cost of about £7,000.—A loan of £2,565 has been sanctioned for the purchase of a site in London Road for the erection of public baths.—Sewers and surface water drains are to be constructed on the Waddon housing estate.—The Housing Committee propose to proceed with a scheme for the erection of 152 houses by direct labour at a cost of £65,000 for houses, £7,000 for roads and sewers, and £4,000 for land at Waddon.—Nos. 27, 29 and 31 High Street are to be rebuilt.—Plans passed: 5 houses, Manchester Road, for Mr. C. Keen; 9 houses, Shirley Road, for Mr. P. Richardson; 46 houses, Green Lane and Maryland Road, for Mr. W. J. Ingram; 5 houses, Benson Road, for Mr. A. Andrews; 9 shops and 36 garages, Beulah and Parchmore Roads, for Mr. C. H. Ridge; 11 houses, Green Lane, for Mr. S. H. Laver; 5 houses, Mersham Lane, for Messrs. Scratchley Bros.; 34 houses, Fairlands Avenue, for Mr. A. Duckitt; 6 houses, Ross Road, for Mr. P. Richardson; alterations and additions, Green Dragon, High Street, for Messrs. Berney & Sons; 13 houses and shops and 4 houses, London and Warwick Roads, for Mr. J. A. Dartnall; 16 houses, South Norwood Hill, for Messrs. Scratchley Bros.; 25 houses, Green Lane, for Mr. F. W. Milton; showroom, living accommodation and stores, Brighton Road, for Messrs. Barney & Sons; 13 garages, Kitchener Road, for Messrs. Scratchley Bros.

DARLINGTON.—Notice is given by the Rev. J. Canon Rooney of the proposal to erect a Roman Catholic school for about 300 children on a site at Cockerton.

ELTHAM.—The following plans have been passed: extension, St. Luke's Church hall, for Mr. J. J. Taylor; 10 houses, Gerda Road, for Mr. Kenneth Dagleish; 14 houses, new road off Archery Road, for Mr. H. Bower.

GOSPORT.—The Ministry of Health have agreed to the acceptance by the Corporation of the tender of Messrs. John Lang & Co. for the erection of 44 parlour houses at £479 each and 78 non-parlour houses at £428 each.—Tenders have been invited for the erection of the central school for boys.—Tenders are to be invited for the renovation of the Alverstoke and Children's Home Schools.

GRAVESEND.—Messrs. Bridgland & Clay are to construct a steel building at the Malt House, Albion Parade, for Messrs. Russell's Gravesend Brewery, Ltd.—Messrs. Dagnall Bros. are to build 5 houses in Campbell Road.

GUILDFORD.—The Corporation are to extend electricity mains to the Woodbridge estate which is being developed by Mr. Hiscock, architect.—Plans passed: 8 houses and 14 bungalows, Elmside, for Messrs. Knapp, Fisher, Powell & Russell; type D houses, Manor Way, for Onslow Village, Ltd.; alterations, Playhouse Arcade, 124 High Street, for Messrs. Hodgson, Lunn & Co.; lay out of Guildown for Messrs. Hodgson, Lunn & Co.; lay out, Farnham Road building estate, for Messrs. Hodgson, Lunn & Co., for Earl Onslow.

HARTSHILL (STAFFS).—Mr. J. Grant is to erect 14 houses in Yoxall Avenue, Hartshill, Staffs.

HOLBORN.—Snow Hill police station is to be rebuilt by the City Corporation who recommend the tender of Messrs. Mowlem & Co. at £81,990.

ISLINGTON.—The governors of the Northern Polytechnic, East Islington, have prepared a scheme for extensions estimated to cost £73,000.

ISLINGTON.—Plans have been approved by the L.C.C. Education Committee for the enlargement of the Monten Street School, Islington, the cost being estimated at £11,600.

LEEDS.—Subject to the passing of the Corporation Bill, the Improvements Committee are asking Sir Reginald Blomfield to prepare a design of the elevation of the buildings to be erected

on the north side of the proposed improvement of the streets between Victoria Square and St. Peter's Street.—The Ministry of Health are being asked to sanction a loan of £17,800 for the erection of baths at Stocks Hill, Holbeck.—A loan of £31,678 has been sanctioned for the erection of an elementary school at Middleton.—Mr. H. S. Chorley has been engaged as architect for the proposed extension of the tram depot in Swinegate and the erection of a motor bus depot in New York Street.—A new electricity generating station is to be erected at a cost of £865,000.—The Housing Committee are to again interview the Leeds Federation of Building Trades Employers, who have offered to erect one thousand houses, with a view to prices being reduced.—The Housing Committee have accepted the tender of Phormium Co., Ltd., to erect six B type houses on the Wyther estate at £535 per house.—The Libraries Committee have approved sketch plans submitted by the Curator for a future extension of the Art Gallery.—The Ministry of Transport have sanctioned, as a relief scheme, the construction of a portion of the Ring Road from Whitehall Road to Gelderd Road.

LEICESTER.—The Corporation have agreed with the Leicester and District Building Trades Employers Association for the erection of 400 brick houses at £465 per house for non-parlour type and £515 each for parlour houses. Contracts have accordingly been allocated at these prices amongst the following local firms:—

Victoria Road site.—4 non-parlour and 6 parlour, Messrs. S. Graves & Son; 12 non-parlour and 8 parlour, Messrs. J. Jelley & Son; 14 non-parlour and 4 parlour, Messrs. E. Fox & Co.; 6 non-parlour and 16 parlour, Messrs. Potter & Lockley; 8 non-parlour and 4 parlour, Messrs. G. Blankley & Son; 10 non-parlour, Mr. A. Jarvis; 14 parlour, Messrs. H. Frearson & Sons.

Cradock Estate.—26 non-parlour and 44 parlour, Mrs. F. E. Winterton; 20 non-parlour and 12 parlour, Messrs. Gregg & Lee; 8 parlour, Messrs. T. R. Price & Co., Ltd.; 34 non-parlour and 30 parlour, Messrs. Bambury & Snowden; 12 non-parlour and 8 parlour, Messrs. H. Fox & Co.; 18 non-parlour and 12 parlour, Messrs. Clark & Garrett.

Kirby Estate.—10 non-parlour, Messrs. A. Graves & Son; 16 non-parlour and 12 parlour, Messrs. J. Jelley & Son; 10 non-parlour and 6 parlour, Messrs. A. E. Cox & Co.; 6 non-parlour and 2 parlour, Messrs. J. Bentley & Co., Ltd.; 8 parlour, Messrs. J. Chapman & Co., Ltd.

In connection with the development of the Park estate sewers are to be constructed at a cost of £30,600.—It is proposed to grant a subsidy of £9 per house for 40 years in respect of 240 houses which the Sutton Trustees propose to erect at the Gipsy Lane estate.—The Tramways Committee propose to proceed with the scheme for the erection of an omnibus garage at a cost of £15,786.—Stores at the tramway depot are to be rebuilt at a cost of about £1,558.—The provision of a mortuary is recommended in an appropriate position in the city.—The Education Committee have prepared a scheme for extending the Colleges of Art and Technology at a cost of £47,000.—Plans have been approved for the rebuilding and enlargement of the Overton Road Infants' School at a cost of £5,000.

LEWISHAM.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have arranged for the enlargement of the Elfrida and the Athelney Street Schools, Lewisham.

LONGTON (STAFFS).—The Wesleyan Trustees are to erect a Sunday school at Adderley Green, Longton.

MANCHESTER.—A massive tower has been designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and Mr. A. Gilbert Scott for the Church of the Holy Name at Manchester. The Church, 30 years old, is still without a tower, and the new structure is to be a memorial of Father Bernard Vaughan, who was at one time priest there. The engagement of the architect of Liverpool's new cathedral for this piece of work is an event of artistic importance. The present structure is not strong enough to carry swinging bells, and a carillon of ten bells played from a keyboard in the choir gallery is to be installed.

MANCHESTER.—Plans passed by the Manchester Corporation include the following:—Trustees of the late A. L. Hulme, dedication plan and section of continuation of Cringle Road, also new streets, viz., Bonum Drive West, Bonum Drive East, Fair Way, Leland Drive and Pilton Drive, Stockport Road, Levenshulme, architects J. H. Maybury & Son, 19 Chapel Walks, Manchester; Boots, Ltd., alteration to premises, Nos. 15 to 19 St. Ann Street, own architects; Hardon's, Ltd., alterations to premises No. 1334 Ashton Old Road and Swindells Street, Openshaw, architects, Thorpe & Collier, 66 Deansgate, Manchester; Salvation Army, conversion of premises into hostel, Hulme Street and Lower Chatham Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, architect O. Archer, Queen Victoria Street, London; Beswick Co-operative Society, Dairy, etc., Bosworth Street, Openshaw, architect A. H. Walsingham, 62 Market Street, Manchester; Meadow Dairy Co., alterations and additions

to premises, No. 86 Moston Lane, Harpurhey, contractor W. Major & Co., 343 Rochdale Road, Manchester; Manchester Temperance Hotel, Ltd., details of reinforced concrete construction, Deansgate Hotel, Deansgate, architect S. W. B. Jack, Carlisle; W. R. A. Graham, alterations to premises, No. 251 Ashton New Road and Church Street, Bradford, contractor S. Taggart, Derby Street, Moss Side; C. Rothwell, addition to "Harewood Lodge," Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, architect W. Johnson & Son, 27 Oldham Road, Miles Platting; Rev. Father Connor, addition to St. Patrick's Presbytery, Livesey Street, architects Foden, Hemm & Williams, 199 Deansgate, Manchester; W. Lloyd, dairy, Graver Lane, Clayton Bridge, architects Eades & Carter, 17 St. Ann's Square, Manchester; H. Saffer & Co., addition to warehouse, Robert Street, Cheetham, architect A. H. Walsingham, 62 Market Street, Manchester; W. H. Coupe, 8 houses, Worsley Avenue, Moston, architect J. E. Kewell, 290 Oxford Road, Manchester; P. A. G. Bell, garage to St. Olave's, Clayton Avenue, Didsbury, architects Thorpe & Collier, 66 Deansgate; F. W. Wolfenden, 4 houses, Holbeck Grove, Rusholme, architect Mr. H. V. Dyson, 48 Bridge Street, Manchester; Harrods, Ltd., wagon and motor sheds to depository, Wilmslow Road, Rusholme, architect Mr. N. Jones, Lord Street, Southport; Dance de Luxe, revised plan and section of ballroom, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, architects Messrs. Drury & Gomersall, 46 Moorfield Road, Pendleton; E. Nove, revised plan and section of works, Pritchard Street, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, architects Messrs. Pendleton & Dickinson, 16 Brazennose Street, Manchester; A. Holt, 4 houses, Manley Road, Withington, architect Mr. A. Macdonald, 71 Meadow Street, Moss Side.

MARYLEBONE.—Plans have now been prepared for rebuilding the Marylebone Grammar School, the cost being estimated at £44,000.

MARYLEBONE.—The Borough Council have prepared a scheme for widening Park Road at a cost of £98,000.—The Cavendish Land Co., Ltd., are to construct a new street at Grove End Road.—Messrs. Muir, Bigge & Co. have a scheme for buildings on a site in front of Hereford Gardens.—Messrs. Debenhams, Ltd., are to construct a subway beneath Little Welbeck Street to connect their two blocks in accordance with plans prepared by Messrs. Gibson & Gordon.—Messrs. Colclutt & Hamp are to construct a subway for Messrs. Frascati, Ltd., beneath Hanway Street between the Restaurant Frascati and No. 18 Hanway Street.—The Portman Estate are to be approached regarding land between Rossmore Road and Park Road suitable for a housing scheme.—Plans passed: premises, 40-41 Chagford Street, for Messrs. E. D. Winn & Co.; additions, operating theatre, Queen Charlotte's Hospital, for Messrs. Jarvis & Richards.

MILE END.—The L.C.C. Education Committee are acquiring a site in Cephas Street, Mile End, for the erection of an elementary school.

NEWBURY.—The Corporation have now purchased a housing site at St. Georges Road and tenders are to be invited for the erection of 32 houses.—The Rising Sun public house is to be altered and enlarged by the South Berks Brewery Co.

NORTHAMPTON.—Part of the Miller's Meadow is to be used for the erection of public baths, a scheme for which will shortly be prepared.—Plans passed: rebuilding Northampton Arms, Deal Street, for Messrs. P. Phipps & Co., Ltd.; surgery and club premises, 35 Sheep Street, for Messrs. A. R. & W. Cleaver, Ltd.; 4 houses, Beech Avenue, for Mr. R. West; 11 garages and store, Abingdon Avenue, for Mr. H. F. C. Hawkins; factory, Kings-thorpe Road, for Messrs. A. Bell & Co., Ltd.; store, Arthur Street, for Messrs. O. A. Miller Last Co., Ltd.

NORWOOD.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have decided to erect a central school for about 400 children on a site in Carmac Street, Norwood.

PAIGNTON.—Mr. H. Whitley is to erect 72 houses on fields off Dartmouth Road. Plans passed: 12 houses, Colley End Road, for Messrs. Maunder & Sons; 4 houses, road off Orient Road, for Messrs. Caunter Bros.; 8 houses, Maidenway Lane, for Messrs. H. Lloyd & Son; 4 houses, Mortimore Avenue, for Messrs. Jonas & Ely.

PLYMOUTH.—The Housing Committee had three tenders for the erection of 24 flats at Pottery Quay but decided that the work should be undertaken by the borough engineer at a cost of £11,592.—Temporary housing accommodation is to be provided at a cost of £9,240 on land near the Citadel.—Negotiations are proceeding for a site at Stonehouse for the erection of baths and cleansing station.—A loan of £17,000 has been sanctioned for the provision of new water mains from Milehouse to Fore Street.—Negotiations are proceeding with the G.W.R. regarding the proposed new road from Apsley Road to North Road Station.—Land has been purchased at a cost of £2,400 for the Coburg Street improvement scheme.—Plans have been approved for the

erection of a refreshment pavilion at The Hoe at a cost of £2,800.

—Plans passed: new streets, North Houndiscombe estate for North Houndiscombe Estate Co.; houses in Vicarage Road, for Messrs. Perkins & Sons; new streets, Swilley estate, for Mr. F. Westacott; 11 houses, Lyndhurst Road, for Mr. J. Neal.

POPLAR.—The Borough Council are seeking sanction for a scheme of extensions at the generating station to cost £37,000 for buildings and plant.—The Housing Committee recommend the acquisition of a site in Glangall Road on which 64 houses and flats can be erected.—Extensions at the Bow depot are to be carried out at a cost of £3,600.

PORCHESTER.—Hampshire Education Committee have decided to enlarge the council school at Porchester by 120 school places.

PORTSMOUTH.—The Corporation are to purchase four acres at Stamshaw for the erection of 72 dwellings, at a cost of about £38,000 for relieving congestion in slum districts.—An improvement is proposed at the site of the Jessie Road bridge at a cost of £600.—Plans passed: 16 houses, Mayles Road, for Mr. J. May, rebuilding Barley Mow, Castle Road, for Messrs. Brickwood & Co.; 7 houses, Northern Parade, for Mr. J. E. Jones; new road off Kirby Road, for Wardens of Winchester College; new road off Wisborough Road, for Messrs. John Lay & Co.

SHEFFIELD.—The Abbey Glen Laundry, Coniston Road, are proposing to erect new laundry buildings of reinforced concrete to the plans of Mr. T. W. Newbold, Civil Engineer, 70, Surrey Street.—The Jessop Hospital authorities have in hand the erection of additional buildings estimated to cost £6,500. Plans by Messrs. Chapman & Jenkinson, architects, 18 Norfolk Row.

SUSSEX.—A scheme for a joint orthopaedic institution is to be prepared by the local authorities of Brighton, Bexhill, Hastings, Eastbourne, Chichester, Worthing and Horsham.

SWANSEA.—The Corporation have reaffirmed the principle of erecting a new Guildhall, to include law courts, on Victoria Park, and a committee are to consider steps for the procedure to be taken to carry out the scheme, and meanwhile the borough architect is to supply members with his return showing the requirements of the various Corporation departments. In the meantime the architect is to arrange for temporary accommodation for the town clerk's department at a cost of about £1,000. The Estates Committee are working with Messrs. James Bros., builders, for the development of a portion of the Townhill estate and the erection of 132 houses. The Corporation will develop the other portion on which 116 houses are to be built.—The borough architect has prepared plans for the new police station at Llansamlet.—The borough architect and the medical officer of health are to report as to additional accommodation for maternity and child welfare work.—Messrs. J. Bloomberg are to rebuild 30 and 31 Waterloo Street.—Arrangements are being made for widening Pentrepoeth Road, where Mr. B. John, architect, is building houses.—The Swansea United Breweries, Ltd., propose to rebuild the Plough and Harrow Hotel, Church Road, Llansamlet.—The borough architect is to report as to the cost of improving several non-provided schools scheduled by the Board of Education for consideration.—Revised plans have been prepared for the new school at Llansamlet, providing for a reduction of £6,000 in the estimated cost.—Premises in Dynevor Place are to be adapted at a cost of £1,000 for use as an orthopaedic clinic.—Maesteg recreation ground is to be laid out and fenced at a cost of £2,500.—The borough architect has been asked to expedite the scheme for the Rotherslade Bay improvement.—Two experimental house of the Bloomfield type are to be erected at a cost of £450 each.—Thirty-five houses are to be erected by direct labour at a cost of £600 per house on the Mayhill site.—Plans passed: Store, Main Road, Glais, for Mr. D. Harding; additions, Fountain Inn, Woodfield Street, for Buckley's Brewery Co.; store, Swansea Road, Waunarlwydd, for Mr. T. D. Rees; warehouse, Northampton Place, for Mr. Evan Rees.

TOWCESTER.—Mr. J. T. Blackwell, architect, has now prepared detailed plans for a new school for the Towcester Grammar School, which was partially destroyed by fire some time ago. The cost is estimated at £20,000 and accommodation will be provided for 200 pupils, which may be increased later to 250.

WANDSWORTH.—The Borough Council have agreed as to a site at Furzedown for the erection of the proposed new St. Paul's Church.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of a further 169 non-parlour houses on the Furzedown estate, and 40 on the Southfields estate.

WARRINGTON.—Messrs. Greenall, Whitley & Co., Ltd., of the Wilderspool Brewery, have in hand a scheme for the modernisation of the "London Bridge" Inn at Daresbury. The plans are being prepared by their own staff, and have been approved by the Licensing Justices.—A new mortuary building is to be erected by the Board of Guardians, Messrs. William & Segar Owen, architects, Palmyra Square, are preparing the plans, and tenders are being invited.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JULY 31, 1875.

THE LONDON BUILDING TRADE.

In reference to the dispute which has arisen between the carpenters and the London builders as to what is known as "grinding time" upon discharge, a conference between the members of the Central Association of Master Builders and the delegates of the men took place on Tuesday afternoon at the offices of the Masters' Association in Westminster, when the following compromise was agreed upon:—"That sufficient time (not exceeding two hours) shall be allowed to carpenters and joiners on discharge for the purpose of grinding and putting their tools in order: this time to commence two hours before such discharge, it being understood that the time allowed shall be occupied by the carpenter and joiner for that purpose." The document was signed on behalf of the Masters' Association by Messrs. Benjamin Hannen, F. J. Dove, Edward Conder, James Mugford Macey, and Stanley G. Bird.

Tenders.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF MIDDLESEX.—From plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect.

CHRIST'S COLLEGE, FINCHLEY (erection of new wing).—Patman & Fotheringham, London, £39,237; Dorey & Co., Ltd., Brentford, £36,633; C. Miskin & Sons, Ltd., London, £35,997; Leslie & Co., Ltd., London, £35,979; H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £35,619; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £33,355; W. Lawrence & Son, Ltd., Finsbury Square, £33,276; G. Bollom & Sons, Ltd., Acton, £33,160; A. Monk, Edmonton, £33,060; W. J. Maddison, Ltd., London, £32,925.*

WOODHOUSE SECONDARY SCHOOL, FINCHLEY (hall and alterations).—H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £10,812; Leslie & Co., Ltd., London, £10,776; F. Cottrell, Ltd., Crouch End, £9,985 10s.; Patman & Fotheringham, London, £9,921; Arthur Porter, Ltd., Tottenham, £9,675; C. Miskin & Sons, Ltd., London, £9,663; W. Lawrence & Son, Ltd., Finsbury Square, £9,555; Stevens & Sons, Highgate, £9,486; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £9,395; W. J. Maddison, Ltd., London, £9,297; A. Monk, Edmonton, £9,290; Turner & Payne, Finchley, £9,233 4s. 4d.*

COUNTY SCHOOL, ISLEWORTH (extensions).—H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £9,691; W. H. Gaze & Sons, Ltd., Kingston, £9,563; W. Lawrence & Son, Ltd., Finsbury Square, £9,468; Dorey & Co., Ltd., Brentford, £9,400; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £9,273; A. Monk, Edmonton, £9,160; W. Lacey, Hounslow, £8,962; Ferris Bros., Acton, £8,678; G. Bollom & Sons, Ltd., Acton, £8,353; G. Challis, Brentford, £8,223.*

SECONDARY SCHOOL, UFFINGTON ROAD, WILLESDEN (erection of caretaker's cottage).—R. Hewett, Ltd., Acton Green, £1,106 5s.; Ferris Bros., Acton, £953; A. Monk, Edmonton, £930; H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £899; Y. J. Lovell & Sons, Gerrards Cross, £890; W. S. Try, Cowley, £850.*

COUNCIL SCHOOL, HAREFIELD (erection of new infants' block).—W. H. Gaze & Sons, Kingston, £8,725; W. J. Page, Northwood, £8,650; C. Miskin & Sons, Ltd., London, £8,400; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £8,350; H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £8,248; W. Lawrence & Son, Finsbury Square, £8,181; G. Bollom & Sons, Ltd., Acton, £8,148; A. Monk, Edmonton, £8,047; Y. J. Lovell & Son, Gerrards Cross, £7,939; W. S. Try, Cowley, £7,830.*

* Recommended for acceptance.

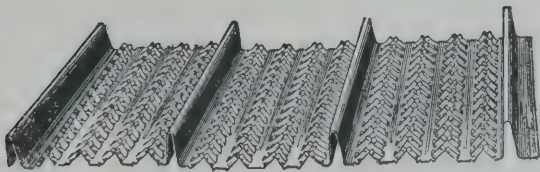
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WELLINGBOROUGH.—Northamptonshire Education Committee are purchasing a site in Doddington Road, Wellingborough, for the erection of a secondary school.

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Building Progress in Regent Street.

The following further particulars of progress in Regent Street can now be given:—For the new block for the firm of Liberty arising in front of the picturesque buildings in Argyll Place, and (like that block) from the design of Messrs. E. T. Hall & Stanley Hall, the general contractors are Higgs & Hill; Dorman, Long's are supplying the structural steelwork; Waygood-Otis, lifts; the South-Western Stone Co., for Portland stone; G. N. Haden's, for heating; Sturtevant's, for vacuum cleaning plant; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, artesian wells and water supplies; Fenning's, for granite; Matthew Hall's plumbing and drainage; Sage's shop fronts; Crittall Manufacturing Co.'s casements; Kleine patent flooring; Ozonair system of ventilation; Leo Sunderland's, for electric installation; Faldo's asphalt; and Dennison, Kett's, for fireproof shutters.

For Nos. 143-7, Messrs. Yates, Cook & Darbyshire are the architects; Thomas & Edge, general contractors; Aston Construction Co., supplying the structural steelwork; United Stone Firms, the Portland stone; Thomas Faldo's asphalt; W. James' steel casements; Diespeker's patent floors; Express Co.'s lifts; Haywards' pavement lights; Empire Stone Co.'s staircase; and Roger Preston & Co., for heating and hot water.

For Mr. Frank T. Verity's Plaza Theatre the general contractors are Arthur Vigor, Ltd.; Young, Austin & Young, for heating and ventilation; Moreland, Hayne's steelwork; Ham Hill and Doulting Stone Co., for stonework; F. Bradford & Co., concrete steps and circle tiers; G. Jackson & Sons, decorative plasterwork; E. J. & A. T. Bradford, sculptors; Waring & Gillow, furnishers; Tredegar's, Ltd., electrical works; Allensons, Ltd., for joinery; Faldo's asphalt; Frank Burkitt, fireproof curtain, etc.; the Wurlitzer Co., for organ; J. A. King's pavement lights; John Bolding & Sons, Ltd., sanitary fittings; Helliwell & Co., Ltd., metal casements; and Light Steelwork Co. and F. H. Pride, ornamental ironwork.

Building Progress in London.

We are able to supplement the information we gave some time since concerning the new buildings in Southampton Row for the Liverpool & Victoria Friendly Society, for which Mr. Charles W. Long, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect; Messrs. Lobban & Geneve, the consulting engineers; and James Carmichael (Contractors), Ltd., the general contractors. The cement has been supplied by Super Cement, Ltd.; Terrano, Ltd., for jointless flooring; the London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd., for "Phorpres" Fletton bricks; Stourbridge Glazed Brick & Fireclay Co. for glazed bricks; MacAndrews & Forbes, Ltd., for Fiberlic wall-board; John Tann, Ltd., for strong rooms; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., the electric cable; Crittall Manufacturing Co., metal windows; and the Engineering Works Electrical & General, Ltd., for lighting and power. The works are still far from complete, but sufficient progress has been made to enable us to recognise that another fine structure is being added to our metropolitan street gallery.

A large block of buildings is in progress in Fleet Street for Messrs. Benn Brothers, of Bouverie Street, the design for which has been entrusted to Messrs. Campbell Jones, Sons, & Smithers, the architects, the general contractors being F. D. Huntington, Ltd. The following is a list of sub-contractors:—C. Isler & Co., Ltd., artesian wells; David Colville & Sons, Ltd., the constructional steelwork; London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd., "Phorpres" Fletton bricks; Cooper, Wettern & Co., Ltd., for granite; Empire Stone Co., Ltd., for reconstruction stone; Val de Travers Asphalt Co., for asphalt; British Luxfer Prism Syndicate, Ltd., pavement lights; Express Lift Co., Ltd., for lifts; Tappin & Co., plastering; Walter Cowen, Ltd., plumbing and drainage; William Morris & Co. (Westminster), Ltd., steel windows; Wotton & Son, glass and glazing; John Blaikie & Co., hot water and heating; and Richard Anderson & Co., Ltd., for lightning conductors. Though we may (and do) regret the gradual disappearance from our midst of picturesque Fleet Street, yet we must bow to the inevitable, and we can at least bear witness to the merits of some of the new work erected in this thoroughfare.

One of the interesting looking fairly modern buildings in London is a block erected for Messrs. Crosse & Blackwell in what is now known as Charing Cross Road. The architect of this building was Mr. Rowland Plumbé, who practised during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Messrs. Crosse & Blackwell have gone thence, and Mr. Plumbé, too, has gone an irtraceable journey, but the building remains and is just undergoing extensive alterations and additions for Metro-Vick Sup-

plies, Ltd. Foster & Dicksee, Ltd., are acting as general contractors; Aston Construction Co., Ltd., are supplying the constructional steelwork; Thomas Faldo, for asphalt; Caxton Hollow Fire-resisting Patent Reinforced Concrete floors are being introduced; Comyn, Ching & Co., Ltd., for heating; Cement Marketing Co., for their "Blue Circle" cement; and Titan lifts will be installed. We shall be sorry if the works involve too great an alteration in Mr. Plumbé's pleasant design.

In Threadneedle Street, just opposite the entrance to Austin Friars, we notice the new buildings in course of erection for the North British & Mercantile Insurance Co., Ltd., Renaissance in style, and having a red brick facade with liberal stone dressings. The architects are Messrs. Thomson & Walford, and the general contractors are Trollope & Colls; Redpath, Brown & Co., for constructional steelwork; Val de Travers, asphalt; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Co., artesian wells; Express Lift Co., lifts; W. Gilbert, for stone carving; Brookes, Ltd., faience; Crittall Manufacturing Co., for metal windows; the Luxfer Co., pavement lights and fire glazing; Rosser & Russell, heating and ventilation; Chatwood Safe Co., strong rooms; Francis Polden & Co., Ltd., electrical work; Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., fire hydrants; Martin van Straaten & Co., Ltd., tiling and mosaic; H. T. Jenkins & Son, Ltd., for marble work; Art Pavements & Decorations, Ltd., terrazzo; Bagues, Ltd., bronze grilles, etc.

In High Street, Kensington, a large Kinema (to be known as the Kensington Kinema) is in an advanced state towards completion, and it is thought that it may be possible to open the house some time this year. The architects are Messrs. Granger & Leathart; Joseph Mears, Ltd., general contractors; and amongst the sub-contractors are Patent Impervious Stone Co., Ltd., for the stonework; Bell's Poilite & Everite Co., Ltd., roofing; Waygood-Otis lifts; Luxfer pavement lights; Blackburn, Starling & Co., Ltd., electric lighting; George Jennings, Ltd., sanitary work; and British Vacuum Cleaner Co., for vacuum cleaning plant.

In Church Street, Kensington, the Gas Light and Coke Co. are erecting show rooms and flats, for which Mr. Austen Hall is the architect, and John Greenwood, Ltd., the general contractors. The design promises to be simple but effective, in red brickwork with stone dressings. S. & E. Collier, Ltd., are supplying the red facing bricks; the London Brick Co. & Forders, Ltd., for Flettons; Shaw's Glazed Brick Co., Ltd., for glazed brickwork; Thos. Faldo's asphalt; H. Young & Co., Ltd., constructional steelwork; Empire Stone Co., Ltd., for cast stone; Express Lift Co., for lifts; Burn Bros. (London), Ltd., for drainage materials and automatic pump; Diespeker & Co., Ltd., with their patent Bigspan floors; Milners' Safe Co., Ltd., for safe-work; J. Jeffreys & Co., Ltd., heating and ventilating; Haywards, Ltd., pavement and lantern lights; F. Bradford & Co., Ltd., staircases and paving; Haskins, for steel revolving shutters; and Greenham, Ltd., demolition and excavation.

Some time ago we referred to the new Barker Store just being commenced in High Street, Kensington. We are now able to give the complete list of sub-contractors, Messrs. Barker apparently acting as their own general builders for the works. It may be remembered that the architects are Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Mr. H. L. Cabuche. The following is the list of firms:—A. D. Dawney & Sons, Ltd., constructional steelwork; F. J. Barnes, Ltd., for Portland stone; V. Martorell, for carving; the Kleine Patent F.R. Flooring Syndicate, Ltd., for fireproof floors; Diespeker & Co., staircases; Henry Hope & Sons, steel casements; Butters Bros. & Co., electric cranes; Considère Constructions, Ltd., with their system of reinforced-concrete; Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., asphalt; J. Jeffreys & Co., Ltd., heating and ventilating; Vigilant Sprinklers, Ltd., for sprinkler installation; Anselm Odling & Sons, Ltd., marble and granite; Grierson, Ltd., electrical work; and A. & P. Stevens, Ltd., lifts.

In Leadenhall Street a large four-square site is being devoted to the erection of new buildings for Lloyd's and the headquarter offices of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Sir Edwin Cooper, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect employed. The general contractors for the one portion are Trollope & Co., and for the other portion the firm of John Mowlem & Co., Ltd.; B. Goodman, Ltd., are the excavators; with Mowlem's are associated as sub-contractors Caswell & Shearing, Ltd., for derricks; Dorman, Long's, for constructional steelwork; the Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., for "Blue Circle" cement. We shall naturally revert in future issues to these buildings.

CONTENTS.

The Building Crafts	PAGE 89	An Architectural Reformation	97
The International Competition for the Development of		The Fifteenth Century in Oxfordshire	98
Lands and Fortifications at Valletta and Floriana, Malta	93	General News	104



NEW PREMISES, RED LION SQUARE, W.C. P. WESTWOOD & EMBERTON, Architects.

The Building Crafts.*

Mr. Martin Shaw Briggs has written an excellent book on the building crafts, in which he describes the gradual changes in methods which have taken place, and the manner in which they have affected building. The first chapter deals with the Architect, the Craftsman and the Past, and the succeeding ones with Brickwork, Masonry, Concrete, Carpentry, Joinery, Ironwork, Roof Coverings, Plasterwork, External Plumbing and Glazing. Of these the introductory chapter is the most interesting, for the author expresses sound and well-balanced views in which he does ample justice to the advantages of past conditions, while explaining that the logic of facts makes a return to those conditions an impossibility. Such

a return is, in truth, as impracticable as it would be to try to resuscitate the life of a past geological age in the world of to-day. The building crafts as they existed in mediæval times are gone for ever, and a new world exists under the surface of which they are dead and buried. What we have to do is to find some means consistent with modern conditions which can give to architecture a measure of the life and vitality which illuminated the work of the past, the direct outcome of the organised schools of craftsmanship which created works of architecture and gave us notable buildings before the architect appeared as a distinct personality on the page of history. As the author states, masonry was by far the most important item in the older build-ings of most countries, and the master mason naturally filled something like the position of the architect of

* "A Short History of the Building Crafts." By Martin Shaw Briggs, F.R.I.B.A. At the Clarendon Press. 8s. 6d. net.



NEW PREMISES, RED LION SQUARE, W.C. P. WESTWOOD & EMBERTON, Architects.

to-day, save that his knowledge of craftsmanship was far greater, while his acquaintance with the technical matters now dealt with by the architect was less. As a supervisor on the spot in actual charge of building operations he could cover a less extensive field than the modern architect, but in regard to the building under his direct care he did much of the work which now falls to the builder or clerk of the works. He filled the position of a resident architect with more knowledge of the chief craft he represented than those working under him. But Mr. Briggs rightly ridicules the conception that the great buildings of mediæval times were the result of the spontaneous strivings of a number of workers inspired by enthusiasm and a sense of republican fellowship, and the whole history of the building crafts, where we have reliable records, shows them to have engaged in disputes concerning rates of pay and questions affecting the limitations of crafts of very similar character to those with which the Trade Unions of to-day concern themselves. The differences were that in the past conditions remained stationary for long periods of time, practical education in craftsmanship was strictly enforced by the apprenticeship system, and what may be called the craft hierarchy was firmly established and recognised.

Above all, work was entirely carried out by manual methods and tradition governed its production. With the gradual changes of the last three centuries, the

introduction of machinery and the substitution of the professional architect for the master mason or master carpenter, all this has been altered. The initiative of the individual worker has been deflected from a craft to a class direction, his work is in most cases very largely mechanical, and he has lost the opportunities given for personal invention and contrivance, partly because he works in all things under direction, and partly because difficult processes requiring a high order of craftsmanship are now often eliminated by the use of machines. The architect of to-day can, if occasion admits, in some cases introduce and order work requiring a high degree of craftsmanship, but anything he wants done to give his buildings the charm of what was in the past automatically produced must be done by deliberate design and direction. As an instance of the change we recall a blacksmith who carried out an architect's design for lamps and grates with no little skill, but who expressed astonishment at his work being preferred to the stock articles to be obtained.

We can call to mind also many contractors who, given good work to carry out, understand enough to fulfil the architect's wishes, but who, having building of their own to do, show their instinctive feelings by relapsing into the colourless and tasteless vernacular which now represents the efforts of men untrained in design. The difficulties are very great, for the better an architect is the less he is usually inclined to leave any detail of a building to a builder or his workmen

and the more men work under direction the less they are inclined to think out matters for themselves. And yet if craftsmanship is to be again anything but an artificial product, it must once more arise out of the knowledge of the many rather than the direction of a small number of men.

Good and tasteful building when we get it to-day is the outcome of an architect's design, for the workman is no longer capable of producing the simplest element with any regard to aesthetic effect or proportion; in the past very little was produced without possession of the interest and charm which are the outcome of a practical education in the traditions of some craft or another.

Possibly in the future we may build up a system in which the appreciation of good building will provide a sufficient incentive to secure it—an incentive to overcome the difficulties arising from the downfall of the craft life of the past. That can never come as the outcome of the work of a few thousand architects designing and building for a public which, without exaggeration, is both ignorant and Philistine *in esse*.

We are convinced it must be by means of the education of the whole population in the elements of building and design, taught as other subjects are taught in every school in the land. If building and its architectural side were included in the curriculum of every school as languages, grammar and history are, it would be as much a matter of "bad form or ignorance" to build badly and employ bad proportions as it is now regarded to speak bad and ungrammatical English or to be wholly ignorant of the facts of history. Then, again, the subjects we know nothing of are usually uninteresting to us, while sometimes with pain and trouble we master in our schooldays the road which leads to

subsequent pleasure and profit. People are no more likely to master a knowledge of architecture than of astronomy if they do not lay the foundation in their schooldays. If, on the other hand, they do, a greater appreciation of the crafts of building will naturally arise. A badly designed house or a badly designed door may in time be as unsaleable as an ugly dress, and those who work either mentally or manually in building will have to satisfy a higher standard. Building is a necessity and architectural design a natural outcome of its more ambitious phases, and it is unreasonable that it should be left outside the scope of a general educational system. If and when it is included we shall get, despite machines, not a revival of the old guild system, but a substitute which will largely take its place.

But it is no more possible to leave it outside the scope of the educational system and yet to hope for an educated public as it would be to bring up a generation in ignorance of English history in the hope that they would in after life educate themselves by attending lectures or reading works dealing with it.

Meanwhile many architects and students may read with profit the book which Mr. Martin Shaw Briggs has compiled, as it is scholarly and thorough in its treatment, containing within a moderate compass much information; but the crux of the whole difficulty is to produce by some means a much wider and more general knowledge of an industry which is essential to every civilisation, and should form its chief and most characteristic expression. Modern building, to which the architect's contribution is at present the exception rather than the rule, is not either a fair or flattering expression of the average education and knowledge of the age, as it should be, and this because it is not the outcome of the study and knowledge of a people, but that of ignorance fitfully broken by the product of the



NEW PREMISES, RED LION SQUARE, W.C. P. WESTWOOD & EMBERTON, Architects.

work of a comparatively small number of trained architects, whose work is carried out by men whose knowledge is limited to the execution of specific instructions given in the form of fully detailed drawings. The possible change is to replace the standard arising out of the knowledge of tradition of the workers as represented by the building guilds—the standard of

work demanded by a community trained to distinguish good and evil in building and to discriminate between spurious and true metal. The good buildings of to-day are the outcome of the knowledge and skill of architects practising a calling of the nature of which the public are ignorant, and for this reason it is a growth resting on an artificial basis.

Our Illustrations.

MASONIC HALL COMPETITION. Designs by VAL MEYER, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

Notes and Comments.

Congestion of Traffic.

We understand that New York, confronted with the same difficulties that London has to meet with regard to traffic, has solved them by a very simple method, that of applying the principle of the block systematically. Instead of holding up traffic spasmodically as in London, the New York authorities hold it up in a whole series of streets

means the standardisation of the jam. A number of traffic tower lamps at the crossings, with coloured signs, enables the hold ups to take place at a uniform time; green meaning "Go," white "Change," and red "Stop." This, and the ordering of traffic by the use of one-way streets for special forms of traffic has solved the problem, and though London is not laid out on a gridiron plan it is probable that some approach to the same system might be possible here. It has the great merit of being cheap and effective.

Cruisers v. Housing.

A correspondent of the "Glasgow Times" writes a letter suggesting that the £58,000,000 the Government is to spend on cruisers would provide 128,888 houses of the Weir type and that such an expenditure would solve a few problems in the coal and steel industries and tend to reduce taxation. The above is a very good instance of the kind of reasoning we often hear now. In the first place we should assume that if it were decided to build cruisers it could only be because they were considered necessary. If they are not it is surely better to save taxation by not spending the money at all. But it would seem now that many people do not argue on such simple lines. If it is proposed to spend money the object may be objected to but it seems to be assumed that the money must be spent somehow. This seems to be one of the reasons why national expenditure cannot be kept down. Another interesting attempt was made in the "Daily Herald" to prove that wages in the coal trade should be increased because while coal worked out at something like $\frac{1}{4}$ d. a pound, chocolate was infinitely more expensive and because a court dress when weighed compared very badly for cost with the price of coal! We very much doubt whether such reasoning can even convince the simplest; if it does, we should say that still more space ought to be provided in asylums if our population is to be housed suitably.

A Letter from Mr. William Woodward.

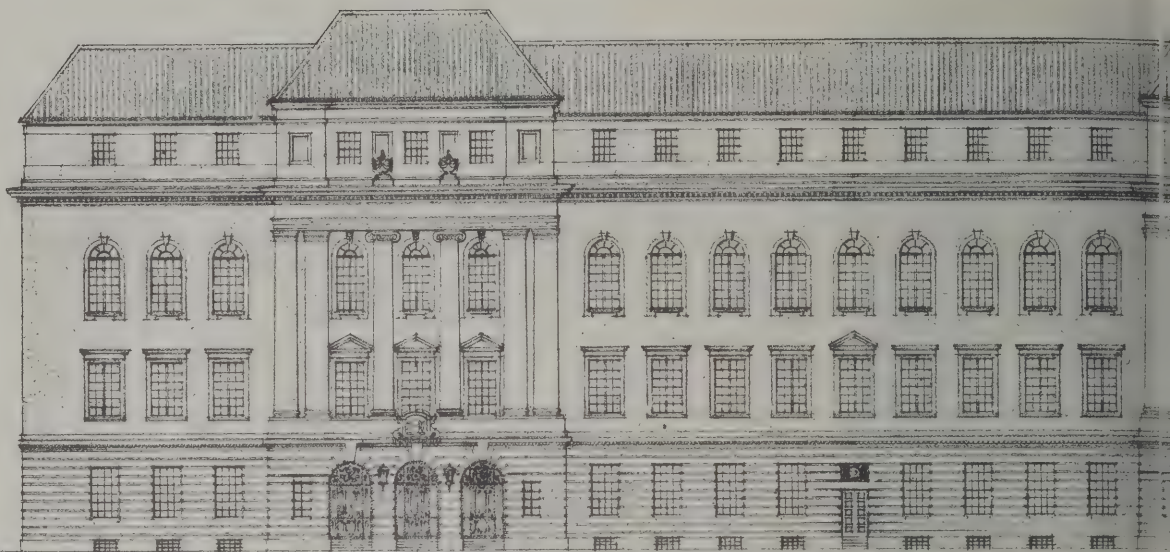
Mr. William Woodward writes to the "Morning Post" on the subject of Tintern Abbey, which he has recently revisited. He has previously expressed his opinion to the effect that the introduction of steelwork in the works undertaken by the Office of Works was entirely unnecessary. He now finds that brick piers built in Portland cement and connected with arches have been erected under some of the westernmost arches to support them while under repair and he comments on the wastefulness of such a process as most of the bricks would be found on removal to be useless except for breaking up for concrete. He believes the object to be effected would have been served by wooden props and it is quite possible he is justified in his strictures. Mr. Woodward has been a constant critic of the scope and expense of the Office of Works methods and we agree that it would be as well to have a clear statement from them as to the nature and probable cost of the works they carry out for "preservation" and other purposes. Departments are far too fond of embarking on enterprises the capital cost of which is unascertained but if known would often result in the abandonment of the specific matter.



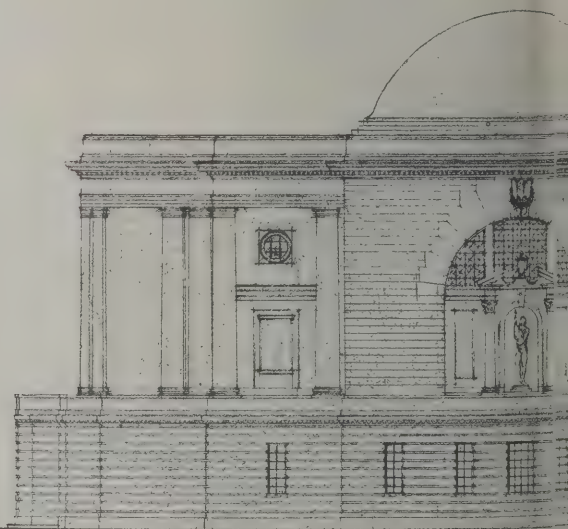
NEW PREMISES, EAGLE STREET, W.C.
P. WESTWOOD & EMBERTON, Architects.

allowing North to South traffic in them and holding up cross traffic and then allowing East to West traffic a free run and holding up the traffic at right angles. The plan

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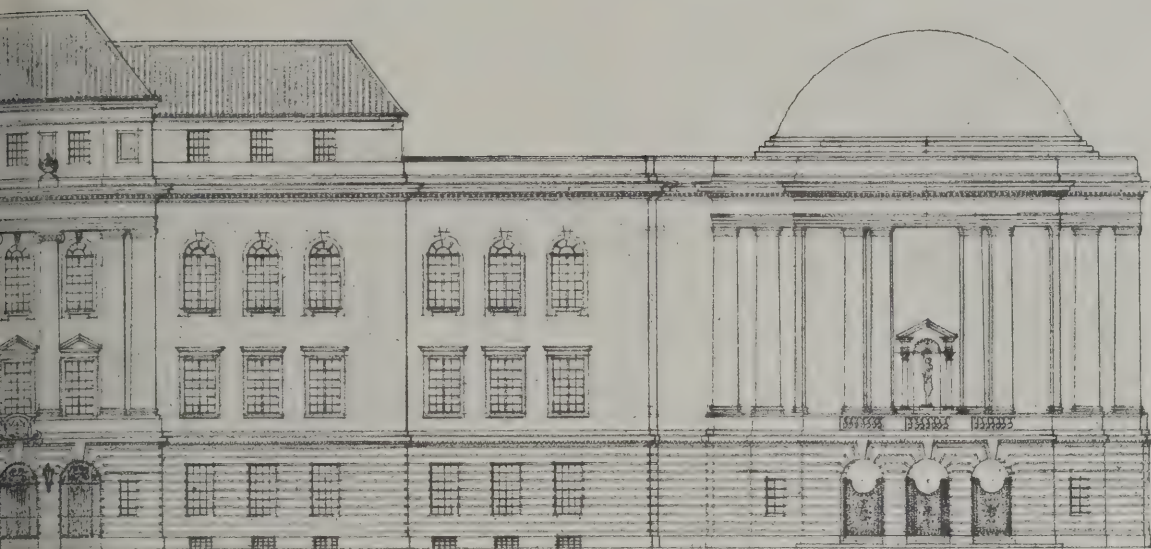


Elevation to Great Green Street



Elevation to Will

AUGUST 7th, 1925.



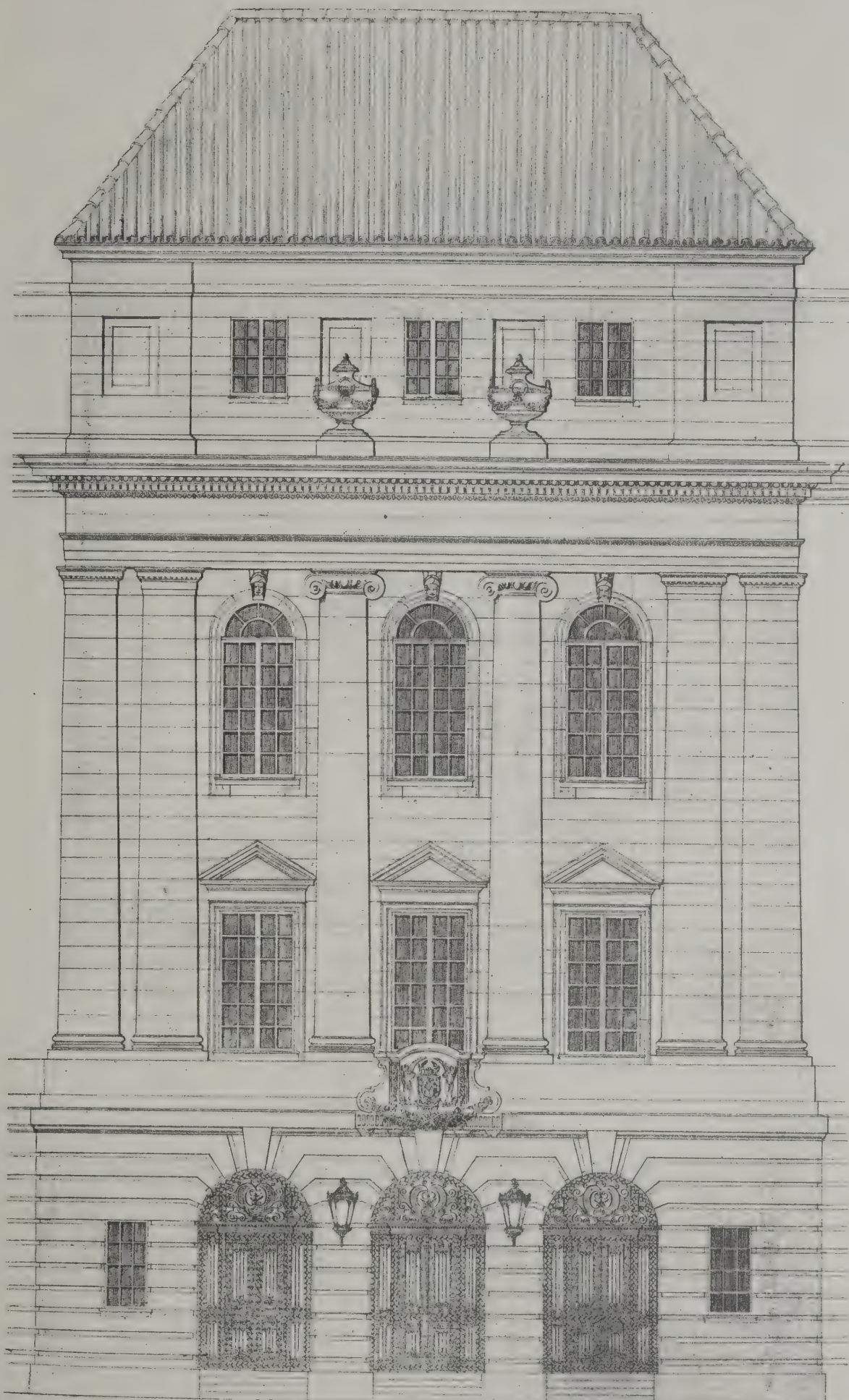
Arch

"INK-PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

ITION DRAWINGS.

ARCHITECT.

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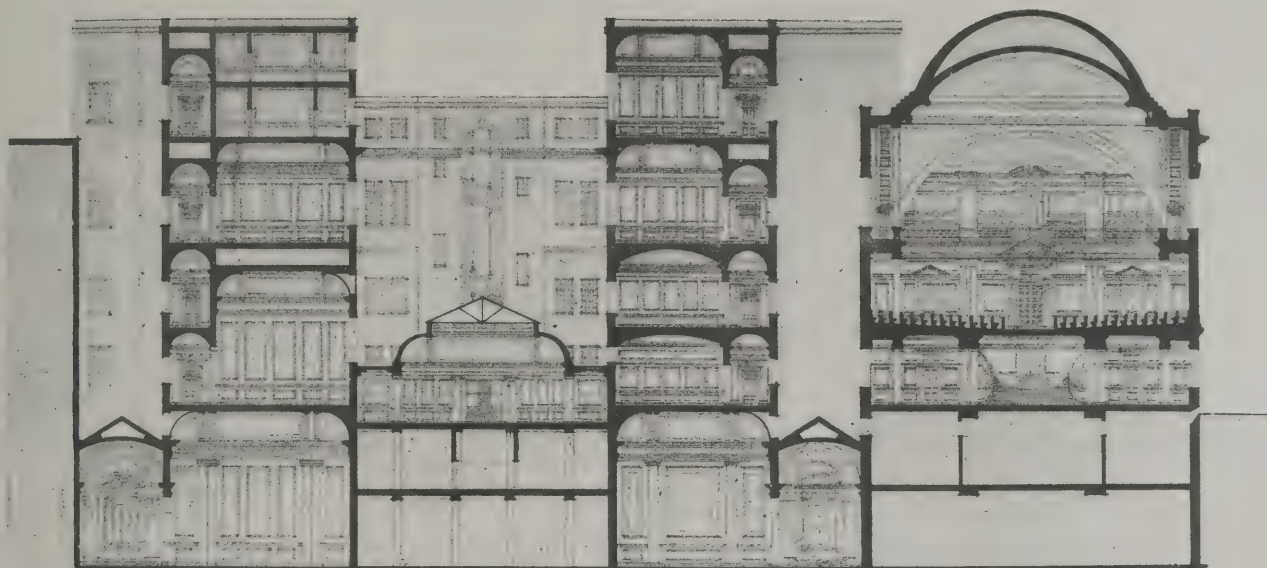
HALF-SCALE DETAIL OF MAIN ENTRANCE.

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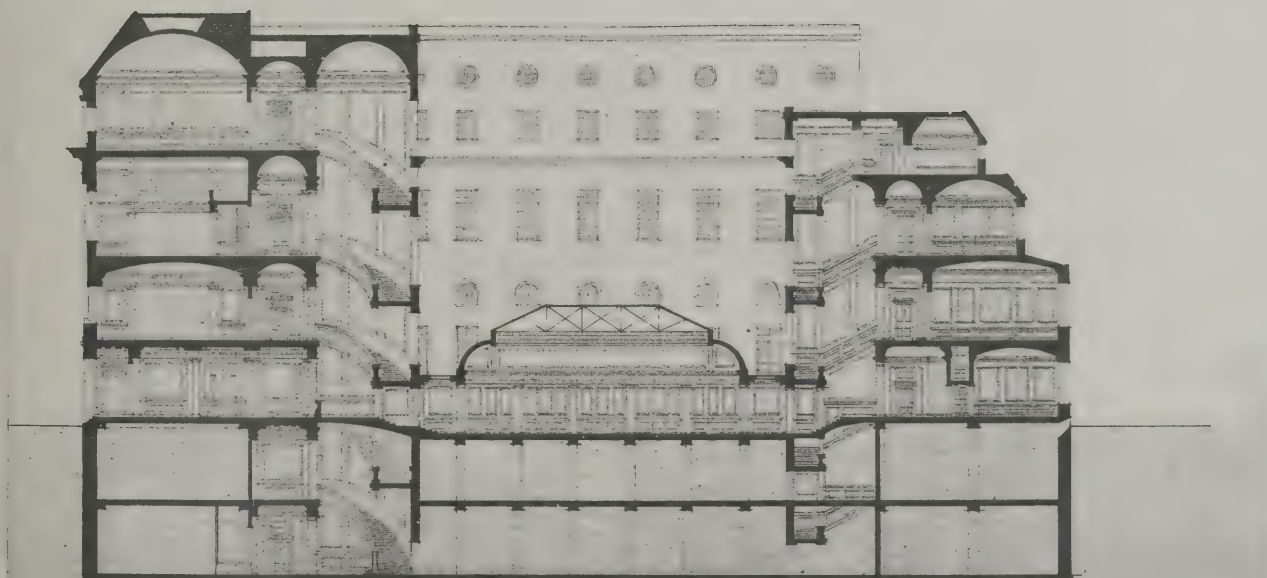
MASONIC HALL. COMPETITION DRAWINGS.

G. VAL MYER, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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Section looking South.



Section looking East.

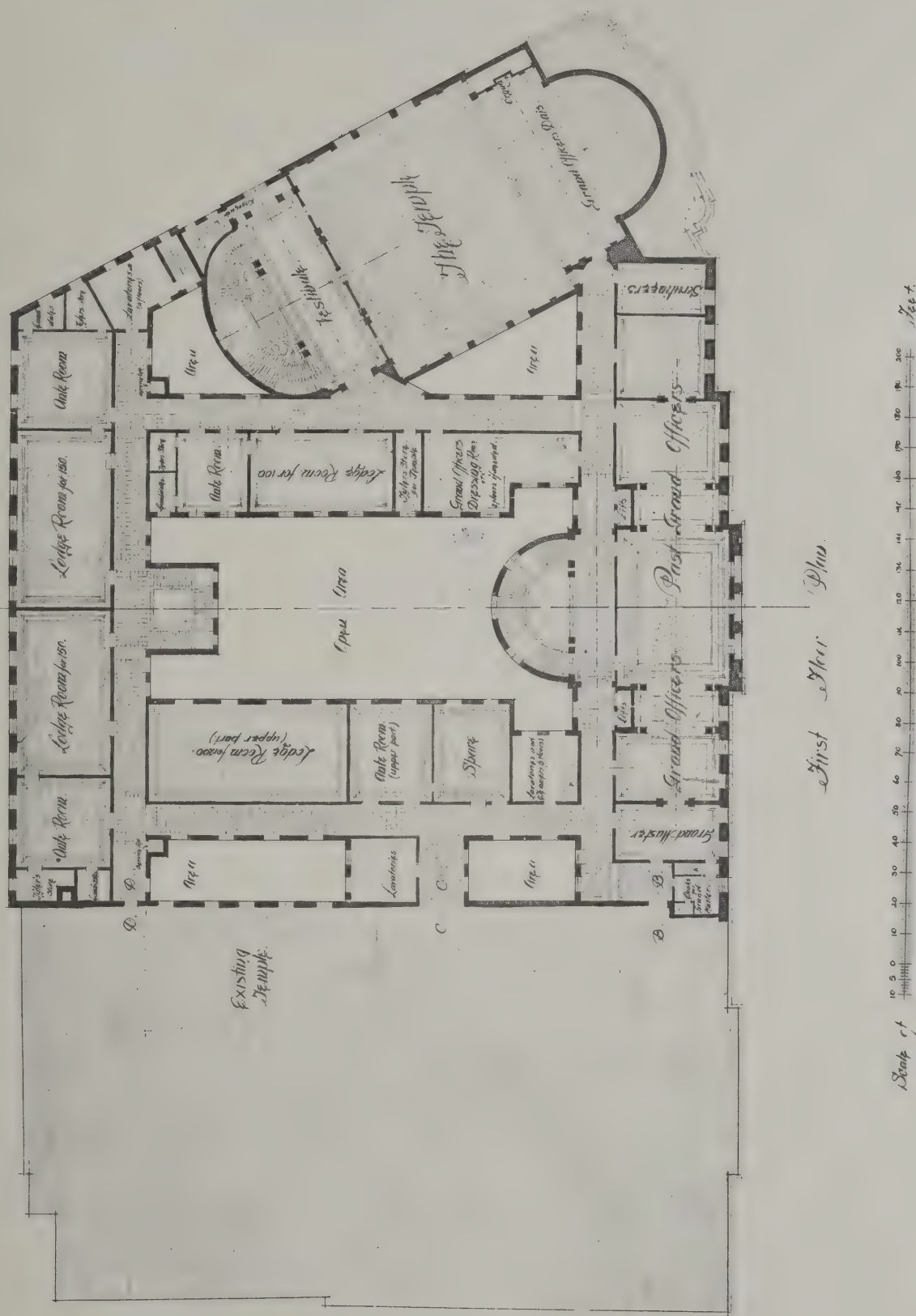
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The International Competition for the Development of Lands and Fortifications at Valletta and Floriana, Malta.

Summary of the Principal Clauses of the Conditions of the Competition.



PLAN OF COMPLETED LAY OUT.

The conditions of the competition required that the scheme should comprise the following principal works:—

(a) The lay-out of streets, gates, squares, and the allotment of sites for the erection of high-class grouped dwellings and detached villas where suitable, on the lines of modern garden suburb development, also workman's dwellings and industrial and other buildings.

(b) The improvement of the main approach to Valletta

from Floriana and of the surroundings of Porta Reale.

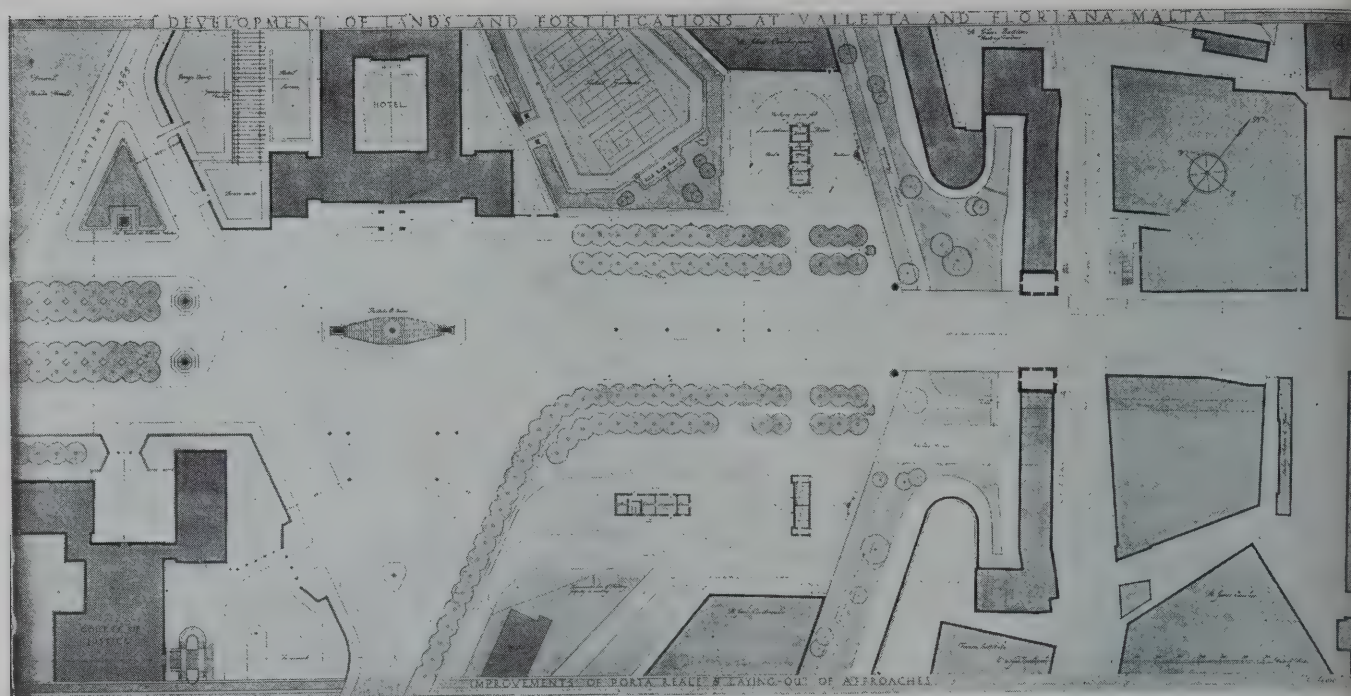
(c) The assignment of a convenient site for a first-class modern hotel; to accommodate 200 guests, with possibility for extension; with provision for a garden, recreation grounds, garages, etc.

(d) Site for the erection of new Courts of Justice, such site to be as near as possible to Porta Reale; the new Courts buildings to provide accommodation for the follow-



PLAN SHOWING EXISTING SITE.

Our illustrations are taken from the Design placed first by MESSRS. JAMES BURFORD, A.R.I.B.A., & S. ROWLAND PIERCE, 3 Staple Inn, Holborn Bars, W.C.



IMPROVEMENT TO THE PORTA REALE AND ITS APPROACHES.

ing Superior Courts—Courts of Judicial Police; Court for Juvenile Offenders; Prisoners' Lock-up; the Government Notary Offices, Public Registry and Notarial Archives' Offices of the Order; Offices for Legal Practitioners (detailed requirements were set out in a special schedule). Certain of the main bastions of Valletta and Floriana were required to be kept intact or to be opened up to give effect to improvements of the gates, etc. Whilst an indication was given that other fortifications, on account of their historical interest, should be preserved as far as possible.

All military properties were required to be left intact, with adequate accesses thereto from new or existing roads. Competitors were allowed to contemplate the acquisition by the Government of private property where necessary to give effect to their schemes.

The assessors appointed to judge the competition were:—

1. Edward P. Warren, Esq., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.
2. Professor Patrick Abercrombie, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

List of the names, etc., of the authors of the premiated or indemnified schemes:—

1st premium (£1,000), James Burford, A.R.I.B.A., and S. Rowland Pierce, 3 Staple Inn, Holborn Bars, London, W.C.1. 2nd premium (£500), René Danger, 6 Duc D'Angouleme, Paris. Indemnities of £100 each, Jacques Alleman, Bethune; Umberts Di Segni, Tripoli; Alberta Lafferla, B.E.A., L.S. & A., Valletta.

THE FIRST PREMIATED DESIGN BY JAMES BURFORD AND S. ROWLAND PIERCE.

Extracts from the Competitors' Report.

General description of, and considerations governing, the lay-out of main traffic roads and piazze and allocation of sites.

Strada Santa Anna.—The main traffic to Valletta from Sliema, Hamrun, Paula and the Porto Nuovo area concentrates on the Piazza S. Anna, and thence by the Strada S. Anna to Valletta. It may be said, therefore, that the Strada S. Anna is the governing factor in the lay-out of roads. It is developed and improved with a view to the concentration of traffic at the Porta Reale, and to the formation of such building sites as will permit of a full development of the architectural possibilities of the area. For these reasons and in view of the difficulty of obtaining access to buildings from a sunken road and in consideration of the necessity for the provision of a site adequate to the Courts of Justice, it is considered advisable from all points of view to close the existing Duke of York's Avenue and to form a new road to the south of it which will be a continuation of the Strada S. Anna, and which will provide a

more direct access to Southern Floriana and the Salita Crocifisso. Since the existing Strada S. Anna is the main business and commercial street of Floriana the sites adjacent to the new extension of it are intended for buildings of a commercial and business character. A site selected for its accessibility and centrality of position is allocated for a theatre, cinema and café. The vista in a north-easterly direction, as may be seen on the drawings, will be closed by the fine façade of the Auberge de Castille and by the fortifications below it.

The planning of this new road permits the removal of the tramway to a screened side-track from that portion of the road fronting the Courts of Justice.

Piazza S. Anna.—The Piazza S. Anna is developed as a terminal to the Strada S. Anna at its south-west end, and in view of the business and commercial character of the Strada S. Anna it is proposed that the lower storeys of the new buildings in the Piazza should be given to commercial and business purposes. The upper storey would provide residential flats.

Porta Reale.—It is considered that the Porta Reale in its existing form is not adequate to the necessities of modern traffic and to its increasing importance as the link between Valletta and the new developments of Floriana and the Harper area, and that any structural alterations to it, such as the removal of the central pier and the conversion of the two arches into one, would destroy its character without providing a full solution of the problem presented. It is therefore proposed that the existing bridge be incorporated into a wider approach bridge leading to the reconstructed entry shown by the drawings. It is claimed that the reconstruction of the gate and replanning of the area immediately within it provide the greatest width of entry which can be obtained without interference with the existing buildings, and that the redesigning of the bridge carrying the Strada Regina gives the maximum of light and air to the main approach. The towers making abutments to the new approach-bridge are formed by a refacing of the existing curtain wall, and the new approach is designed to maintain the architectural character of the existing Porta Reale. It is proposed that the two statues and principal decorative features and inscriptions of the present gate should be historical association be incorporated in the new work.

New Piazza near Porta Reale.—In addition to forming a centre of concentration and distribution of traffic outside the Porta Reale the Piazza is bounded by the two principal buildings of the new work, namely, the Courts of Justice and the first class hotel. Attention is also directed to the



IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PORTA REALE AND ITS APPROACHES.

following points in relation to the new Piazza:—(1) Tram and bus services. The tram and bus services are given (for the convenience of the public) termini, which are as close as possible to the Porta Reale and at the same time kept free from the main traffic lines. The tramway terminus on the south-east side provides a circulation for expeditious handling of return services and trailer cars, together with facilities for waiting cars. It includes tramway offices and a public shelter and lavatories. On each side of the Piazza are bus stops (see $\frac{1}{16}$ in. scale plan), whilst on the north-west side is placed the bus office with adequate parking space and turning room for waiting long-distance buses which might otherwise encumber the main traffic lines.

(2) Site for Courts of Justice. It is claimed that the Courts of Justice have been allocated the only site which at once gives close proximity to and provides a frontage to the Porta Reale and which is also of an importance commensurate to the size and civic character of the building.

(3) The site, on the north-west of the Piazza, allocated to the first-class hotel allows room for its extension to the west, for garages and gardens, and provides for tennis courts, etc., in the shelter of St. John's Ditch. The site is held to be in the most central position for its purpose and is unenclosed by other buildings. It is conveniently near to Valletta, the tram, bus and train services, and the various public gardens, and has the commercial asset of being on the direct route from the Molo Marina to Valletta by way of the reconstructed Salita Crocifisso (*infra*).

Reconstruction of the Salita Crocifisso.—In view of the importance of the Molo Marina as a place of disembarkation

of passengers the Salita is developed and reconstructed as a motor road having gradients not steeper than 1 in 20 giving a direct route from the Molo Marina to the Porta Reale and Valletta, also to Floriana, and in addition, with the Via Otto Settembre 1565, providing for traffic from harbour to harbour. The road includes the approach to the Merchant Seamen's Hospital and the Seamen's Rest, at the existing levels. Government stores are incorporated in the construction of the lower part of the Salita.

New Road to Lighter's Basin.—The formation of the new road to the Lighter's Basin from the Piazza S. Anna is rendered possible by the proposed requisition of about 980 square yards of military property. The road has a constant gradient of 1 in 20 and its purpose is to provide a direct route from the Porto Nuovo area to Floriana and Valletta, it also connects with the residential roads of the Crown Work area.

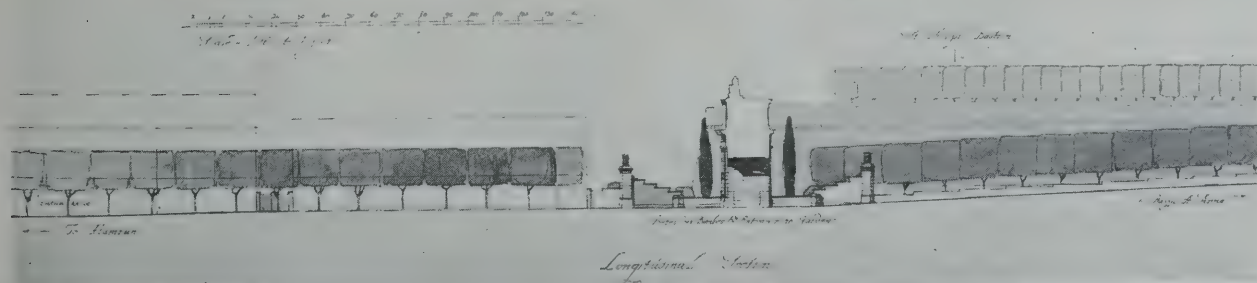
Portes des Bombes and adjacent Piazza.—On account of its architectural merit and archaeological interest and as an indication of the main entrance to Floriana, it is considered desirable to retain the Portes des Bombes. The main road passing on either side of it separates ingoing and outgoing traffic whilst the trams pass, as at present, through the main arches of the gateway.

The Piazza, to which the Portes des Bombes forms a terminal feature, collects the roads from Hamrun, Sliema and the Crown Work area. It provides a shopping and business centre and a stopping place for buses and trams common to, and forms a connection between, the Notre Dame and Crown Work residential areas.

DEVELOPMENT OF LANDS &c. AT VALLETTA & FLORIANA.



LAY-OUT IN CONNECTION WITH PORTES DES BOMBES.



PRESERVATION OF THE PORTES DES BOMBES AND THE FORMATION OF A NEW PIAZZA.

Allocation of Residential Sites.—(1) First Class. Sites for first class residential buildings are allocated on the north-western side of the Peninsula by reason of their being less occupied or required for business purposes, for their greater openness, and for their separation from the traffic attending the Porto Nuovo and new industrial areas.

(2) Second Class. Sites for second class grouped dwellings and flats are allocated on the Crown Work area, on the Crucifix Bastion, and by St. James's Ditch (Valletta), by reason of their proximity to the new industrial areas, the Porto Nuovo, the Grand Harbour, and the business and commercial centres.

Schools.—Provision is made for three new schools.

Sites for Industrial Buildings.—Convenient sites are allocated for warehouses and industrial buildings for industries not of a nature to spoil reasonable enjoyment of adjacent residential areas, near the Lighter's Basin and Porto Nuovo.

Fortifications Preserved.—The fortifications coloured green on "Plan A." have been preserved in their entirety,

whilst other fortifications, wherever feasible, have been retained on account of their historical or picturesque interest.

Relation of Fortifications to New Planning.—The roads and blocks of flats in areas open for exploitation are arranged with a view to preserving, as far as possible, the lines followed by the fortifications, and whilst the blocks of flats form culminations to groups of houses, the fortifications themselves fulfil throughout the scheme an important part in the composition of the buildings.

The opening-up of the fortifications is assisted by the formation of gardens about them.

Maglio Gardens.—By reason of their situation, maturity and historical interest, the Maglio Gardens are for the greater part retained without alteration. A traffic way is opened through them between San Pubblio and the Piazza Britannica as an additional connection between Northern and Southern Floriana.

Cemeteries.—All existing cemeteries in the area about the Misida and Quarantine Bastions are retained as open spaces and connected by public gardens.



A STREET IN JERUSALEM: PALESTINE PAVILION, WEMBLEY.

Too Late!

A correspondent writes to the "Newcastle Evening Chronicle" to urge that only those members of the R.I.B.A. who have passed the examinations should be entitled to use the letters F.R.I.B.A. and A.R.I.B.A. and that others should use the letters M.R.I.B.A. in order to give the student of the future the greatest incentive to work. The writer—who must be an architect—must surely have been sleeping for some years or he would know that the whole subject has been exhaustively thrashed out and finally agreed on and that the Charter just granted confirms that agreement. We do not imagine, whatever the views of many architects on the recent changes are, that "Encouragement" would find it possible to move for and obtain such changes as he proposes. We do not say we have not considerable sympathies with some of his views, but it is emphatically too late to bring them forward. News must

reach Newcastle very slowly if the new Charter is not known there!

The Palestine Pavilion, British Empire Exhibition, Wembley.

This pavilion has been designed and carried out by Miss Dorothy A. Braham with the assistance of workmen, and represents a typical street in Old Jerusalem, showing the small shops, arches and superstructure which are typical of the local market-places, or "suks." The entrance archway was painted by Miss Dorothy Braham to represent the Jaffa Gate, and at the opposite end is another, a reproduction of the Gate of Damascus, beyond which is a view representing the streets of modern Palestine and showing the quaint iron and wood balconies and brightly coloured awnings, while a view of Mount Scopus and Professor Geddes' new Hebrew University, which we have illustrated, is indicated in the distance.

An Architectural Reformation.

By Dudley Harbron.

Mankind under a mask of serenity is actually in open revolt against tradition, the past—and the material environment with which his predecessors apparently have so carelessly hedged him in.

Civilisation as manifested about us in its tangible works appears to have been very successfully engaged in concealing her real feelings. No individual who reflects for a moment on the outward world will find any adequate presentation of those thoughts and aspirations, the ultimate realisation of which in material form is the goal towards which all mankind is aesthetically striving; the gradual attainment of which makes life full of interest and worth living.

It is difficult to understand how, when all the internal forces of man would appear to be impelling him to this distant goal, and when the external effects of his material environment have every indication of inducing the same activity, he has not made immensely greater strides towards the realisation, here and now, of those intuitions which it is the common heritage of the greater part of civilised humanity to hold.

True there are in the nature of things certain hinderances to perfect attainment even in an atmosphere desirous of reconstructing its surroundings in accord with its vision. Realisation even if instantaneous would not satisfy anticipation, and, if not anticipation, certainly not expectation. Because thought is always in advance of attainment. Thus that which satisfies to-day produces a sense of inevitability to-morrow. If ever the common current of thought were accomplished there would yet be higher and more remote peaks to climb. The philosophy of civilisation has aimed at stability at the expense of originality. The belief that the human spirit is immortal is used to justify our inactivity in the present. In order to avoid what we conceive to be conflict with our neighbours, we have exalted the art of dissembling our feelings—into a barrier that all but the most adventurous find it impossible to realise is self constructed. Worst of all, we fear the direction in which our thoughts impell us.

In architecture this peculiar series of misconceptions is more in evidence than in the other arts. Poetry, painting, sculpture, literature, music, have each exponents whose work is recognisably the artist's apprehension of the hour; though these arts are still dominated by great numbers yet influenced by renaissance tendencies of thought.

Architecture is just beginning to emerge. Indeed, the evidence of an awakening is in the work of a few artists who have discovered the way of the spirit, rather than the outcome of any deliberate acceptance of an alternative philosophy. Beauty is not conditioned by economics. Many of the material difficulties which limited expression in the past have been overcome. What then impedes progress?

It seems to be the lack of courage necessary to give material expression to inner intuitions. We are obsessed by the fear that our images will fail to awaken a corresponding emotion in the spectator. Consequently we are engaged in endeavouring to palliate the outer world by serving to them confections which we imagine will be to their taste. Until the artist's imagining is embodied the people cannot very well appraise. Ought we not to discipline our emotions, cast out our fear, and know that our intuitions are true.

A modern cemetery is a distressing sight. Christianity is worthy of a finer recognition of the hope it holds—by those who hold it. The inconclusive form of the usual graveyard memorial warrants the unkind assumption that the hope is not real. The symbol does not symbolise. If it did, too much love, too much care, too much conviction, could not be bestowed upon its realisation.

Pater said that:—"we know too much." Perhaps it is true. Possibly it is necessary that we should forget a little, in order that we may emerge a changed people. If like the Dorians we had no past; if like the dark ages we were ignorant of the antique world; there might be hope

for art. To the fear of the future is thus added by suspicious man the dread that all the manifestations of the spirit in art are nothing more than indications that the intelligence of man is turning in its tracks and retreating in haste towards savagery.

British architecture has been singularly free from any such taint, whatever its direction.

It cannot indefinitely escape infection, for it is in the speech, the written word, the air we breathe. It is not necessary to call as witness Sir Oliver Lodge to confess he knows one absolute only. Realistic knowledge is no longer looked upon as supreme. The conquests it has made do not compensate for the limits it imposes.

Artists suffer from the fear of thoughts which are their own. This self deception is typical of the renaissance; it leads nowhere.

It is not surprising that persons nurtured in this atmosphere should find it difficult to display their hearts upon their sleeves, or unabashed reveal to the world the results of their meditation upon life and its significance. The renaissance imposing reality against spirituality did not succeed in entirely conquering even in the darkest hour of Victorian night. Spirituality slumbered but was not smothered by her restless mother.

The awareness of the intimate arts is only as yet infantile. The apprehension of the spectators upon whom the artist ultimately depends incomplete.

The war has intervened between the first ebullitions of activity and the present. Stringency does not favour wide publicity. It however promotes the fresh examination of shibboleths, a realisation of their fatuity. It is not, however, by accidents like this that the direction of architecture is determined. It requires a much more permanent, deeper seated movement as motive force—such is now stirring.

The result of this new direction of thought is not likely to be observable immediately, nor can its outcome be foreseen. It is, however, of such a nature that the ramifications fundamentally disturb the external seeking that for so long has deluded the mind. It offers to such as are brave enough to tread it a way of release. It is ultimately certain to permeate the entire body politic.

It is that stream of consciousness which gives the idealist his fervour, the fanatic his force, and the adventurous their courage to explore. A little leaven in the meal and the whole becomes leaven. As the effects of this movement of thought become objective, the problem which in truth never was a problem, of the status of architecture as an art or a profession will be solved. The ridiculous parody of the borrowed idea will be recognised by all as the unclean thing it is. The parasite will die for lack of a body to batten upon.

But this ideal state is a long way from immediate realisation. Now that the spectator feels this dissatisfaction, though he hardly knows how to express himself; the artist has little excuse for loitering. We know enough about the evolution of art form to realise that a new order will not suddenly emerge. The first steps are a shedding of illusions. The later, a visualisation of truth.

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Messrs. F. A. Norris & Dutton, Ltd.

We regret having omitted the name of Messrs. F. A. Norris & Dutton, Ltd., Mechanical and Electrical Engineers, in connection with the new buildings in Southampton Row for the L.V.F.S. The omission occurred on page 88, where our Building Progress Notes included a reference to some very extensive building operations in Southampton Row. Messrs. F. A. Norris & Dutton, Ltd., are carrying out the whole of the warming and ventilating installations in these buildings.

ST. PANCRAS.—The Borough Council have completed the plans for the Somers Town improvement scheme.

The Fifteenth Century in Oxfordshire.

By P. M. Andrews, A.R.I.B.A.

Oxfordshire has been prolific in furnishing examples for the architectural text-book. Its villages and church details are known chiefly from illustrations, and in many cases their names only signify a piscina, or decorated window, or hood mould. Ewelme is one of these, and in this case its distinction is a font-cover which is illustrated in all books on Gothic woodwork, and occasionally something is also said about the roof. This way of studying the topography of a county is apt to leave a limited impression on the mind, for there are a great many more fine things to be seen than what these text-books mention; and it is strange that though Oxfordshire is in such easy reach, yet there are comparatively few who have sought out these villages where their celebrated details can be studied in their own surroundings.



EWELME
ALMSHOUSE.

Ewelme is neither on a railway nor on a high road, and for that reason is free from charabancs and motors, and is delightfully sequestered and unspoilt. The Icknield Way, that most ancient trackway that connected the eastern counties with Salisbury Plain, at that period the centre of activity, runs within two miles of the village. Finds of Roman coins and burial mounds in the vicinity point to there being some possible settlement here in these remote times. The traffic on the Icknield Way ceased when the Romans laid out their road system. London became the centre of importance and the focus of nearly all the roads, leaving the ancient trackways lying transverse to the new system and allowing them to fall into desuetude. To-day this ancient way is a grass track, winding round the base of the Chiltern Hills, and used only by farmers and their carts; occasionally a section is used as a country lane, but in the greater part of its length it retains very much the same appearance that it had centuries ago.

EWELME. GATEWAY
TO ALMSHOUSES.



What sort of a village was here, or even whether there was any settlement at all, it is impossible to say. Ewelme is essentially a fifteenth century production, and though it appears in Domesday as Lawelme, and the first vicar dates from 1220, there is nothing tangible left from these times. The church was entirely rebuilt in the fifteenth century, together with an adjoining hospital or almshouse and school. The whole group of buildings were planned together, and little change has taken place since. The manor belonged to the family of Burgersh, and it was the youngest daughter of the last heir who married Thomas Chaucer. This Thomas Chaucer, there seems to be no doubt, was the only son of the poet by his wife Philippa, the sister of Catherine Swynford. This marriage with the heiress of Burgersh brought him the manor of Ewelme. Thomas Chaucer, like his father, was a man of some social standing, having been Member for Oxfordshire in most of the Parliaments from 1400 to 1430, and was three times elected Speaker of the House of Commons. He saw active service with Henry V., and was present at the Battle of Agincourt, though what military position he held, if any, is not known. He was extremely wealthy, and the fact that he was assessed at £200 for paying off the debt of the French War shows that he was one of the "millionaires" of the day. He died in 1434, and left one child, Alice, who married, as her third husband, William de la Pole, and so brought the manor of Ewelme into this celebrated family. Leland says, referring to the Duke of Suffolk's marriage with Alice Chaucer, that "for love of her and the commoditie of her Landes fell much to dwell in Oxfordshire and Berkshire where his Wife's Landes lay." This William de la Pole rose with some rapidity to power. He saw much service in France, being on the staff of the Duke of Bedford, and after Salisbury had been killed before the walls of Orleans, he succeeded to the command. This, however, was short lived,

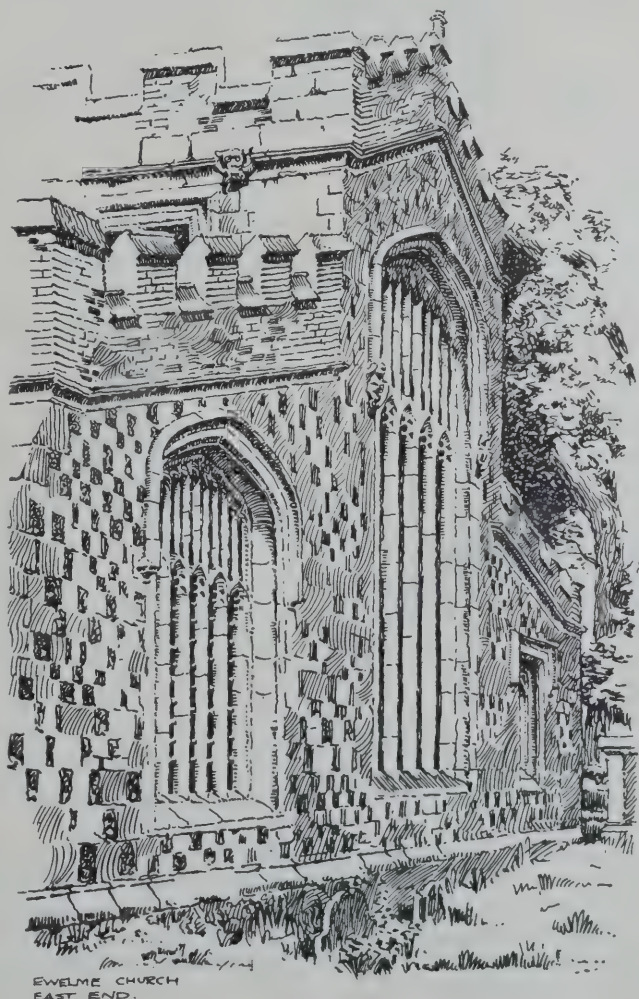


as he was taken prisoner by Joan of Arc at Jargeau. He was soon ransomed, and was again in command on the Norman frontier. After his return to England two years later, despite his misfortunes in war, he became the leading Minister of the almost imbecile king, and brought about the marriage with that rather terrible lady, Margaret of Anjou. For this piece of matchmaking he was made a marquess, and on the death of Cardinal Beaufort, he received the dukedom of Suffolk in 1448.

In spite of royal favour, he was never really popular, the older families being jealous of one who could only trace his ancestry back a hundred years, and then find that his great grandfather had been a Hull merchant. Indeed, it had been said, and, of course, denied, that the Suffolks were the first English peers to have risen from the commercial classes. Whatever may have been the reason, Suffolk was soon being charged with having mismanaged his foreign diplomacy, and the disasters recently inflicted on the English arms were being laid at his door. He attempted to defend himself in Parliament against these attacks, but without success, and he was banished for five years; it is said that it was due to his friendship with the king that the sentence was not heavier. This, however, availed little, his opponents were too strong for both him and the king, and though he managed to leave the country, his ship was intercepted, and he was beheaded on the high seas. It was given out at the time that he fell a victim to pirates, but the fact that his assailants were on board a royal vessel tends to prove that all was done according to plan. His widow, Alice, retired to her house at Ewelme, where she lived for twenty-five years.

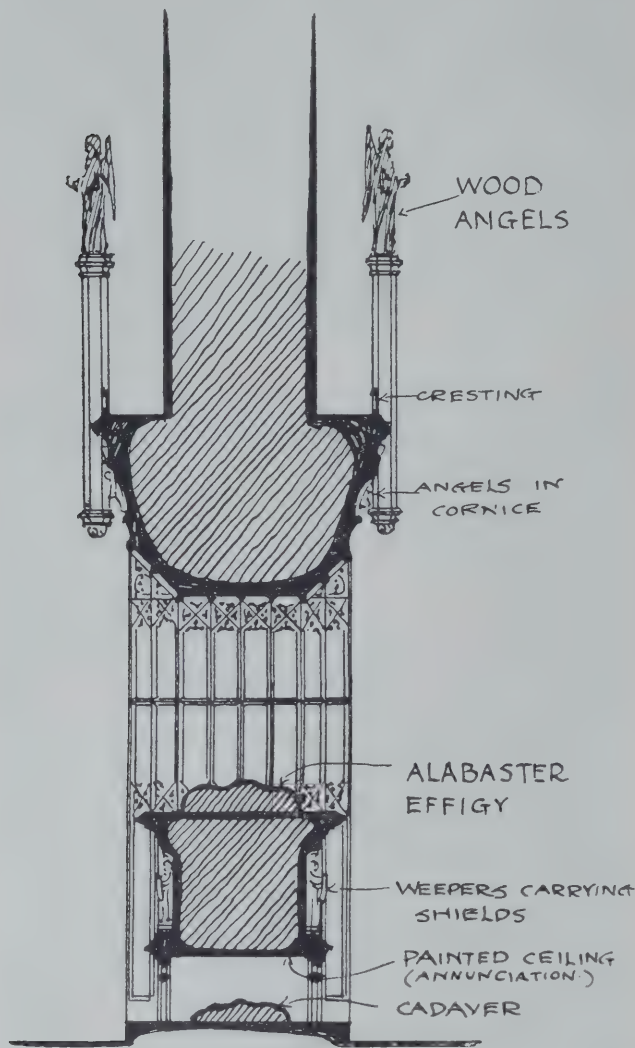
As a great historical figure, the Duke of Suffolk does not stand out with much prominence. He rose rapidly, and fell with that suddenness that was the lot of so many

in those unsettled times. That he was a devoted public servant, and that the charges brought against him were mostly false, is now generally agreed. But in whatever light he appears in the pages of history, he certainly made lasting impression on this small village, where his memory is preserved in the solid brick and stone that were the outcome of his charitable purpose. It can be confidently stated that he refounded the village. The old church of Norman foundation with, possibly, early English additions, he completely pulled down and rebuilt it in the fifteenth century manner with nave, chancel, and two aisles running out to the full length. The influence of East Anglian work is apparent, and though the walls are mainly of stone, a singularly happy arrangement of chequer pattern of stone and flints alternately is contrived at the east end. Evidently he brought masons from his old home at Wingfield, in Suffolk, to supervise the work, and they carried on their local traditions. There is a north and south porch, the latter being of oak, which is most faithfully worked in imitation of stone with solid stoppings and returned labels, exactly like the neighbouring windows. The tower has been restored, and is the least effective feature in this fine group of buildings. It is oblong on plan, with double belfry lights on its east and west faces, and single ones on the north and south. Its shape is due to the fall of the ground, which runs down steeply at the west end. The interior of the church is remarkable for its wealth of woodwork and colour decoration, and is figured in Cox's "English Parish Church" as a great example of mediæval craftsmanship. That all this beautiful work should have survived in such completeness is largely due to the energy of Col. Martin, who kept the church locked during the Parliamentary Wars, and only allowed it to be opened once a Sunday for service. The result is that it still retains all its old screens, which completely surround the chancel, and its chief glory, the well-known font cover, though how the old Puritan fingers must have itched, while listening to a two or three-hour sermon, to pull all that delicate tabernacle work to pieces.



EWELME CHURCH
EAST END.

At the end of the south aisle, and raised like the chancel above the nave, is the Suffolk chapel. Here lie buried Thomas Chaucer and his wife, and adjoining, under a most sumptuous tomb, the Duchess of Suffolk. These two tombs are in striking contrast, the Chaucer tomb being of plain Purbeck marble with simple arcaded panels and



the other a mass of ornament filling the entire arch and carried up almost to the roof. The Chaucer tomb has a double row of heraldic shields along its three sides, representing all the families with whom he was connected, including the Royal House, though strangely enough his father's arms, which appear on the Westminster tomb and which it is known he bore, are absent. All these shields are in wonderful condition, the enamel as brilliant as when first applied, and they afford a fine example of the decorative value of heraldry and the rich and splendid effect to be obtained by this means when the eye is not distracted by elaborate carvings and accessories. The Suffolk tomb contains a fine alabaster effigy of the duchess, obviously a portrait, surrounded by the conventional weepers carrying painted shields. Underneath, on a level with the floor, and largely hidden behind pierced tracery, is the cadaver. What is somewhat remarkable is that the soffit over this is decorated with a painting of the Annunciation, which is, of course, entirely invisible from any normal position. Those who care to obey the verger's instructions and lie on their backs and peer through the tracery screen will be rewarded by seeing one of the best preserved mediæval paintings in existence; it also speaks volumes for the modesty of the artist in so successfully hiding his work. The upper part of the tomb is completely covered with traceried panels, and the cornice, on which is carved a row of angels with interlacing wings, is divided by eight attached shafts terminating in oak figures. These little dark figures, contrasting strongly with the white stone, are exceedingly attractive, though it is more than probable that originally they were painted, in which case the effect would be lost.

A considerable amount of painted decoration is still left, including a black-letter inscription running round the whole chapel, and the walls below are entirely covered with a rather monotonous repetition of the sacred monogram. The roof is another good example of the flat carved ceilings of the period, with major and minor divisions and carved angels and shields at the intersections. It is said to be of Spanish chestnut, but this is extremely unlikely, there being no other case known where this wood was employed, and which was not indigenous to the country, being introduced by the Romans, and in the fifteenth century was very rare and of quite prohibitive price. Fragments of old glass fill the east window, and the altar footpace is formed of the old encaustic tiles. Now that Mr. Comper has completed the chapel by providing a painted altar in his characteristic style it is doubtful whether the duchess would find anything very different from what it was in her own day, though she might be surprised at the magnificence of her own tomb.

Connected with the church by a battlemented passage is the hospital or almshouse. Licence to build this was granted by Henry VI in 1437, and by 1442 the foundation was complete. It was originally known as God's House and was to provide a home for thirteen old men, with a common hall and rooms for the masters grouped round a quadrangle. All remains as the founders planned. It is constructed of brick with oak supports round the cloister, and in the centre of each walk is a brick nogged gable with traceried barge board, the western walk being continued to form the entrance passage and terminating in a delightful brick porch. The establishment was governed by two priests, one of whom looked after the inmates, the other being the schoolmaster. They received £10 a year each and each pensioner 14d. a week. This does not sound like riches, but £10 was probably equivalent to about £150 pre-war value, and 1s. 2d. about equal to 17s. a week, rather more than our unemployment pay. The residents had to conform to a rule much like any other collegiate body, and were bound to be present daily at Mass, Matins, Evensong and the Hours, which were said in the parish church, where each had a stall. They wore their own costume which was distinguished by a cloak with a red cross on the breast. Several of the almshouse masters lie buried in the church, where their brasses afford valuable information as to the costume of the period. The house escaped at the dissolution, and the thirteen tenements are still occupied by old men and women, though their daily attendance at the church service is not quite so strict as formerly.

Below the almshouse, at the bottom of the hill, is the school. This was founded at the same time as the other



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buildings, and like them has suffered little during the course of time. It is of brick, with perpendicular stone windows, and has a fine open-timbered roof. It is still used for the purpose for which it was built, and is the only instance of a village elementary school being housed in its original fifteenth century building.

The Palace, as it is called, which the Suffolks built as their home, has gone, though fragments may still be discerned among the outbuildings of the farm that occupies the site. It undoubtedly was a fine place, for, judging by the other buildings that have survived, the Suffolks were no niggards where architecture was concerned. Leland, who saw it when it was about a hundred years old, describes it as "set within a fair mote and is builded richly of brick and stone. The Hall of it is fair and hath great barrs of iron overthwart it instead of cross beams. . . . There is a right fair Park by the Manor Place." What he means by the great barrs of iron it is difficult to say, unless they were ordinary tie rods such as were used at Westminster Abbey. The house remained in the Suffolk family until the time of Henry VII. The successors of Duke William had come greatly into favour with the advent of the White Rose, and John, William's grandchild, had been promised the crown on the death of Richard III, and had been created Earl of Lincoln. The battle of Bosworth, however, intervened and shattered his hopes, and this caused him to conspire with the Duchess of Burgundy and get mixed up in the Lambert Simnel affair. He, like others of similar degree, supported the cause of this innocent imposter, and he was eventually killed at Stoke-on-Trent. His lands were attainted and the manor passed into the hands of the crown. So ended the house of Suffolk.

Henry VIII, who had spent one of his honeymoons here—it must have been an alarming time for the villagers—gave the place to the Dukes of Cornwall. It was still in existence in the seventeenth century, and for some time was the home of Prince Rupert.

Since the fall of the Suffolks the local history of Ewelme has been that of a thousand other obscure villages. Generations have pursued their quiet avocations undisturbed by turmoil from without, and though it probably shared in the general excitement caused by the Enclosure Acts of the last century, there is no record of any disturbances such as happened a few miles further north at Otmoor. It is essentially a place of one period, and we are fortunate to-day in being able to study so completely the varied architectural achievements that one group of men could produce. The church, almshouse, and school, though all sharing features which are common to the age, yet have a diversity of design that makes it impossible to suppose it to be the work of one mind. It is all a product of that latter part of the mediæval period when the tradition and training of individual craftsmen enabled them together to produce a harmonious result without being bound down to instructions and detailed drawings prepared in a central office, maybe a hundred miles away, and by one who is out of touch and sometimes out of sympathy with the work on the site.

R.I.B.A.

REGISTRATION AS PROBATIONER R.I.B.A.

Special attention is called to the fact that, except in very special cases, a headmaster's certificate will not be accepted after October 1, 1927, and no one will be registered as a Probationer of the R.I.B.A. unless that person has passed one of the recognised examinations in the required subjects. A list of the examinations recognised may be obtained free at the R.I.B.A.

Competition News.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE.

Designs are invited by the Governing Body of the Liverpool College for proposed new buildings for the College on a site at Mossley Hill—assessor, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A. Premiums of £500, £300 and £200 are offered. Conditions for competition and plan of site can be obtained from J. H. Lintern, Secretary, Liverpool College, Sefton Park Road, Liverpool, on and after September 1, 1925, on payment of a deposit of £2 2s., which will be returned only after the receipt of a *bona fide* design. Designs to be delivered at the above address on or before January 1, 1926.

New Premises, Red Lion Square, W.C.

P. WESTWOOD AND EMBERTON, ARCHITECTS.

The building only consists of a portion of the scheme. The Red Lion Square doorway would be the centre of the building to that frontage, and extension would be made up Dane Street, to finish round on to Eagle Street, to make the complete block. With regard to materials, terra cotta was used for several reasons. Firstly, for convenience in making an extension of the premises at any time, it will only be necessary to clean down the present portion to make a homogeneous mass. Secondly, the arrangements made regarding the height of surrounding properties were that some light coloured material should be used. The front portion of the building constitutes the general offices of the company, and the basement and rear portions are used as a warehouse, from which the various branches of the company are fed. This is easily managed by means of the spacious yard at the rear, where there is also garage accommodation. The ground floor is used for the buying department, for interviewing travellers, etc. The first floor contains the general offices, and on this floor there is also the board-room. On the second floor is the mail order department, and on the third floor further offices, lecture room, housekeeper's flat, etc. The portion facing Eagle Street, and the entire basement is fitted with steel shelving for the storage of stock, except the display department and the advertising studio. The building is a steel-framed structure, with fire-proof doors and sprinkler installation. There are modern electrical lifts. Main contractors: Messrs. William F. Blay, Ltd. Sub-contractors: Steelwork, Messrs. Redpath Brown & Co.; floors, Messrs. Die-speker & Co.; terra cotta, Messrs. Gibbs & Canning; marble and terrazzo, Messrs. Fenning & Co.; glazed brick work and sanitary fittings, Stourbridge Glazed Brick & Fire Clay Co., Ltd.; sprinklers and iron doors, Messrs. Mather & Platt; lifts, Messrs. Smith, Major & Stevens; heating, Messrs. Chas. P. Kinnell & Co.; electric lighting, Messrs. Tyler & Freeman; asphalt, Messrs. Ragusa Asphalte Co., Ltd.; wall finishing to main hall and staircase, Messrs. Lapidus Patent Stone Facing; steel skylights, copper light glazing, pavement lights, Messrs. G. C. Cuthbert & Co.; steel balconies, Messrs. Harold Cooper & Co.; steel sashes, Messrs. Taylor Manufacturing Co., Ltd.; large metal window to Red Lion Square front and railings, etc., Messrs. The Birmingham Guild, Ltd.; steel fixturings, Messrs. Sankey-Sheldon; internal telephone system, Messrs. Dictograph Telephones, Ltd.; floor coverings in general, Messrs. Skellorn Edwards; board room furniture and carpet, Mr. George William son; ironmongery, Messrs. Yannedis & Co.

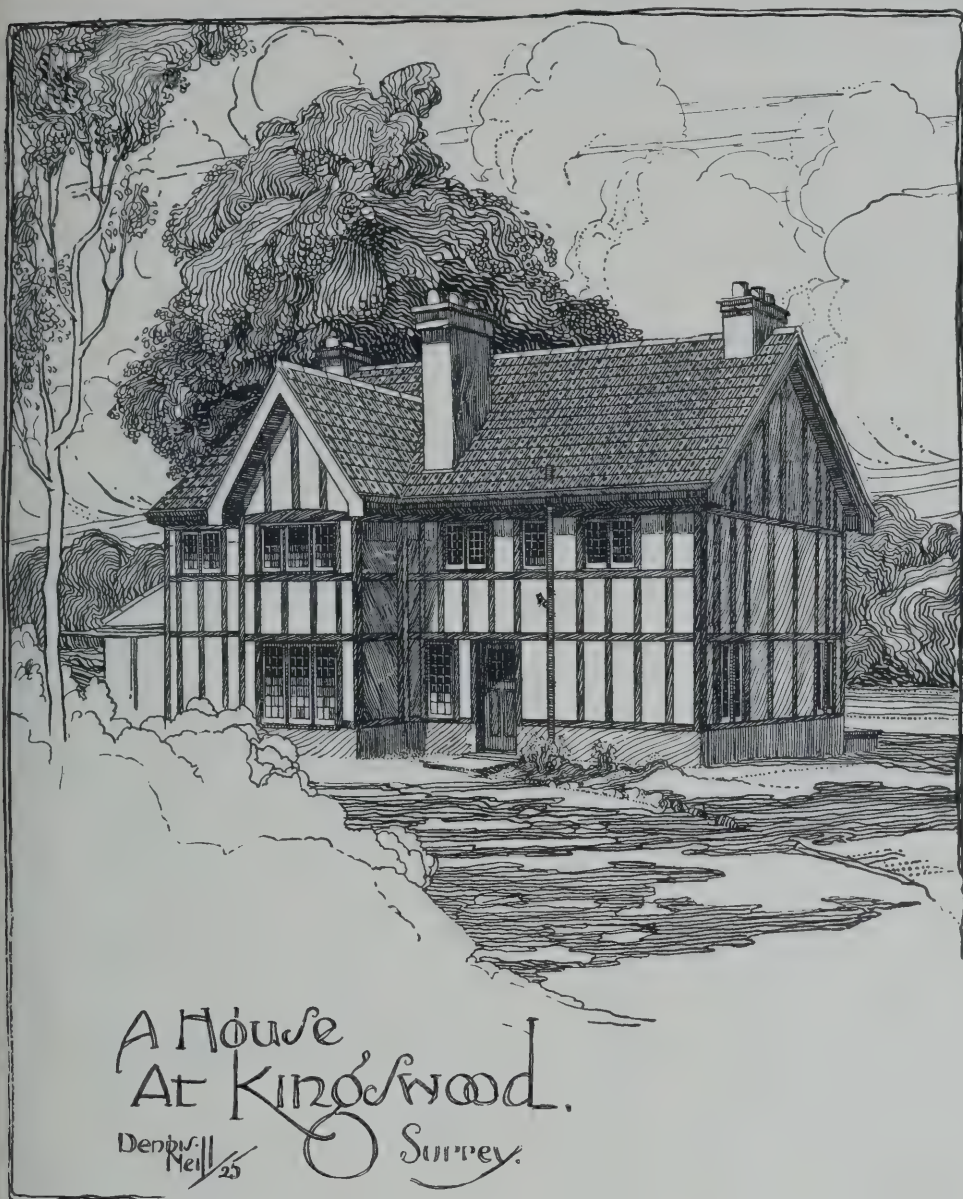
"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

AUGUST 7, 1875.

THE NEW BUILDINGS IN LUDGATE CIRCUS.

The buildings at the south-western angle of the Ludgate Circus, completing the circus itself, which have for some time been in course of erection, are fast approaching completion, and will shortly be occupied in connection with the publication of the "Echo" newspaper. The buildings were designed by Mr. John Wimble, the style being Italian. In addition to a deep basement and ground floor, they are three storeys in height, all of which have ornamental pediment windows, with semi-fluted columns. The elevation is faced with Portland and Bath stone. The north angle at present has a somewhat unsightly appearance, in consequence of not being carried to the frontage of the adjoining buildings in Fleet Street, but the latter are eventually to be taken down, and the street widened as far as Bride Lane, where the new Circus buildings will be in a line with Fleet Street as so widened. Mr. Sansom is both the builder and the owner of the new buildings, and he has leased them for a period of twenty-one years, at a rental of a little more than £2,000 a year, to Mr. Albert Grant, who intends to occupy the whole of the premises as the publishing and general business offices of the "Echo." Mr. Sansom is under an engagement to have the premises completed and ready for occupation by the end of the present month, when the publication of the "Echo" in the new buildings will commence. It may be stated as an interesting fact in connection with the desire to concentrate journalism in the locality, that very shortly after Mr. Sansom had concluded his negotiation with Mr. Grant, the representatives of one of the leading morning newspapers made an offer for the premises at a rental considerably in excess of that at which they had already been leased. Mr. Sansom was of course compelled to decline the offer, the acceptance of which would have been greatly to his advantage.

WELLFIELD.—The Board of Education have approved plans of the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school at Wellfield.



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General News.

BARKING TOWN.—The Urban District Council are seeking sanction to borrow £40,000 for the erection of the proposed central school in Wilmington Gardens.—Mr. Charles Gray proposes to erect 60 subsidy houses in Somerby Road and Sherwood Gardens.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Hulse Avenue, for Mrs. I. Leftley; factory extension, Harts Lane, for Cape Asbestos Co.; 5 houses, St. John's Road, for Messrs. E. Glenny & Son; additions to factory, Hertford Road, for Mr. W. Cummer; 6 houses, Movers Lane, for Messrs. E. Glenny & Son.

BLACKWELL.—Blackwell bridge is to be reconstructed by the county authorities of Durham and North Riding at a cost of £102,500, which includes improvements to the road approaches.

BLIDWORTH.—Notts County Education Committee have purchased a site at Blidworth for the erection of an elementary school.

BURY.—Lancashire Standing Joint Committee have prepared a scheme, to cost £32,000, for the provision of a new court house and police station at Bury.

CHESTERFIELD.—The Education Committee are acquiring a site in Highfield Lane for the erection of a school.—Tenders are to be invited by the Corporation for converting two of the slipper baths at South Street baths into semi-shower baths.—Another hundred houses are to be subsidised.

COULSDON.—Coulsdon and Purley U.D.C. have revised plans for 92 houses to reduce the cost by £60 per house by arranging for building in blocks of five instead of three and lowering the height of rooms.—In connection with the development of the Selsdon Garden Village, where over 200 houses are to be built by Messrs. W. P. Costain, a widening is to be effected in Selsdon and Addington Roads.—Plans passed: offices and stores, Godstone Road, Purley, for County of London Electric Supply Co.; premises, corner of Brighton Road and the Avenue, Coulsdon, for Westminster Bank, Ltd.; 5 houses, Peaks Hill, Purley, for Mr. W. R. Roach.

DURHAM.—The County Council have prepared a scheme for the reconstruction of county bridges at a total cost of £206,000.

EDWINSTOWE.—A site has been purchased at Edwinstowe by the Notts County Education Committee for the erection of a school.

HASTINGS.—A scheme has been prepared for the construction of a bathing pool at Seaside Road, the estimated cost being £25,000. The scheme includes seating accommodation for 2,000 spectators by means of balconies.—The Housing Committee recommend a contract with Messrs. Braithwaite & Co., Ltd., for the supply and erection of 50 steel houses at a cost of £24,337.—The Parks Committee are considering the erection of a sports pavilion at East Hill.

HEBBURN.—The Urban District Council propose the erection of an elementary school for 400 children.

HODSOCK.—Notts County Education Committee have accepted the tender, £21,792, of Messrs. Greenwoods (Mansfield), Ltd., for the erection of a school for 744 children and a caretaker's house at Hodsock.

ILFORD.—The Education Committee have prepared plans for an open air school at Brunton Road.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of 24 maisonettes and 98 non-parlour houses to complete the Horns estate housing scheme.—Messrs. P. E. Brand, Ltd., have purchased the Shackman's Farm estate for building development.—Plans passed: bank premises, corner High Road and Goodmayes Road, for Mr. G. Coles; telephone exchange, High Road, for H.M. Office of Works; 7 houses, Lonsdale Gardens, for Suburban Developments (London), Ltd.; 5 houses, Golfe Road, for Messrs. Hains & Holland Bros.; 7 houses, Sunnyside Road, for Suburban Development Syndicate; 11 houses, Colombo Road, for Mr. F. B. Harrison; 10 garages, Ley Street, for Mr. H. Warren; 14 houses, Salisbury Road, for Mr. J. W. Davies; 84 houses, Beehive Lane and other roads, for Messrs. A. W. Jagers & Sons; 10 houses, Heath View Gardens, for Mr. F. H. Brown; 5 houses, Gyllyndune Gardens, for Mr. W. H. Knox.

JARROW.—An electrical laboratory is to be constructed by the Durham County Education Committee at the Jarrow secondary school.

KERESLEY.—Warwickshire Education Committee have accepted the tender, £7,697, of Messrs. Humphreys for the erection of an elementary school at Keresley and the tender, £447, of Messrs. Couzens & Akers for heating.

MANCHESTER.—The Corporation are considering a scheme for electricity extensions at a cost of £420,000.—It is proposed to acquire land at Moston for a housing scheme to cost £359,000.—An elementary school is to be erected at Ravenbury Street, Clayton, at a cost of £27,000.—A loan of £25,000 is to be sought for a scheme of improved street lighting.

MANCHESTER.—The Corporation have prepared a comprehensive scheme for the erection of 2,000 houses. Meanwhile, the

Corporation proposes to proceed with a scheme for 610 houses at Moston, estimated to cost £309,150.—Approval has been given to amended elevations prepared by the city architect for the tram-car sheds in Birchfields Road.—Plans have been prepared for a new parcels depot at the Hyde Road tramway depot and tenders are now to be invited.—The city architect is to prepare plans for the completion of the Levenshulme baths scheme.—An elementary school for Roman Catholic children is to be erected at St. Malachy, Collyhurst.—A school for mentally defective children is to be erected on a site in Cheetham Hill.—Plans have now been prepared for the new school at Victoria Avenue, Blackley.—Alterations and additions are to be carried out at St. Peter's School and Waterloo Road School cookery and laundry centres.—Wood block floors are to be laid at Blackley municipal school, Brookdale Park School, Cavendish School, Grange Street School and Mansfield Street School.—Plans have been prepared for alterations at the Chorlton Central School.—Messrs. Delvin and Conway have been approved as sub-contractors for the plastering work on the Co-operative Wholesale Society contract for 600 houses on the Wilbraham Road estate, and Mr. Edgar F. Walker for painting on Messrs. Jacksons contract for 186 houses on the Bleakley estate.

MANSFIELD.—Plans have now been passed for the Technical School at Mansfield to be erected by the Notts County Education Committee. The scheme will include a gymnasium and the Miners' Welfare Committee have increased their contribution from £9,700 to £10,200.—Alterations are to be carried out at West Hill House, Mansfield, at a cost of £650.

MARKET HARBOROUGH.—The Urban District Council have agreed to subsidise a further 30 houses.—Plans passed: four houses, Morley Street, for the Land Society; dairy, Farndon Road, for Co-operative Society; extension of workshops, Caxton Street, for Messrs. J. Haddon & Co.

MONWORTH.—Warwickshire Education Committee have accepted the tender, £6,635, of Mr. Isaac Langley for the erection of an elementary school at Monworth and the tender, £365, of Messrs. Newell & Nesbitt for heating installation.

NEWFIELD.—Durham County Education Committee have purchased a site at Newfield from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the erection of an elementary school.

RETTFORD.—The governors of the Retford Grammar School have decided to proceed with extensions at a cost of £8,500.

SHOTTON.—The Rev. Aston Ord gives notice of a proposal for the erection of a Roman Catholic school for about 300 children at Fleming Field, Shotton, Durham.

SMITHFIELD.—The Markets Committee of the City of London Corporation propose repairs to the substructure of the Port of London Authority's cold store in Charterhouse Street, Smithfield, and the steel girders over the railway at an estimated cost of £8,000.

SOUTHFIELDS.—The following plans have been passed by the Wandsworth Borough Council: 16 houses, Augustus Road, for Messrs. Belfrage, Savage & Hooper, architects.

STANHOPE.—A site at Stanhope has been acquired by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school.

ST. ALBANS.—Herts County Health Committee have prepared a scheme for the provision of an institution for 400 mentally defectives on a site at Hill End, near St. Albans, at a cost of £120,000.

STOCKBRIDGE.—Hampshire Education Committee are to enlarge the elementary school at Stockbridge at a cost of £3,250.

STREATHAM.—The following plans have been passed by the Wandsworth Borough Council: 50 houses, Walrond Street, and 15 in Ribblesdale Road, for Messrs. Swain & Selley; 10 houses, Kingsmead Road, for Messrs. R. Kendal, Ltd.

STREATHAM VALE.—In view of rapid building developments at Streatham Vale the L.C.C. Education Committee have decided to provide an elementary school in the district for about 1,200 children.

USWORTH.—A site at Usworth has been purchased by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school.

WATER ORTON.—Warwickshire Education Committee have accepted the tender, £1,409, of Messrs. Jackson & Insley for extensions at the Water Orton elementary school.

WEST AUCLAND.—An elementary school for 320 children is to be erected by the Durham County Education Committee on a site in Copeland Road, West Auckland.

WORKSOP.—The provision of an advanced mining centre at Worksop is in contemplation by the Notts County Education Committee. A provisional grant of £9,800 has been made by the Miners' Welfare Committee.

CONTENTS.

The Pitfalls of Criticism	PAGE 105	Netley Abbey Revisited	PAGE 114
A Modern Architectural Eclecticism	109	French Architects' Statute	116
28 Edwardes Square, Kensington, W.8	111	General News	120



CANADA HOUSE, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W. SEPTIMUS WARWICK, Architect.

The Pitfalls of Criticism.

We occasionally receive interesting comments on the illustrations and other matter we give, comments which are frequently not intended for publication but which afford material for thought. Recently we received a letter of protest about a building illustrated, which we may describe as an example of the modern school of design. We wrote saying that the main object of an illustrated architectural journal was not to give a series of illustrations of work which might be especially admirable but rather a fair representation of the current work of the times. Some of this work is admirable because of its merits, some interesting as representing views which may not be our own, while in other cases a design may be of interest simply from its relative importance or magnitude, though it may offend many canons of good taste. Again, work may sometimes be interesting by reason of its bizarre character and should be studied just as a doctor studies the manifestations of disease! Mankind would be less and not more healthy if we had no knowledge of the nature of disease and the means by which it may be combated and eradicated from the system, and in the same way we

may be better fitted to determine what constitutes good design by the study of work which "falls from grace." In this country natural temperament and the English desire to compromise have both had their effect on architectural design and, be it added, on the criticism to which architects are subjected.

We have hardly at any time touched the fringe of Baroque Architecture and when we visit the continent of Europe for the first time the strongest impression of "foreignness" is that suggested by the Baroque manifestations which we see almost everywhere. English designers have very seldom "let themselves go," and the Baroque is the expression of uncurbed fancy and a delight in strange and rich effects. A few of our architects—among whom we shall all think of the late E. A. Rickards—have felt the charmed influence, and Rickards had the courage of his convictions, while others have felt more timid appreciation which has not dared to express itself in brick and stone. Here we may say is a fundamental point on which we should find lay criticism sharply divided on lines of nationality—the Belgian, German and Frenchman often



CANADA HOUSE, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W. SEPTIMUS WARWICK, Architect.

showing appreciation of the Baroque, while the Englishman unhesitatingly condemns it. At the other end of the scale are the works of those who are inspired by the modern gospel of simplicity. But here, again, the national inclination to compromise has its effect. A designer like Erich Mendelssohn would find it impossible to get his clients to accept his views and the nearest counterparts are only examples of a studied avoidance of the customary architectural accessories.

We believe the public only accept these from a belief that the road to economy is made possible thereby, for it is really in these matters many decades behind the conviction which actuates our most advanced tendencies of architectural thought. We may take it that the world is, as in Shakespeare's time, "still deceived by ornament," and we sometimes question whether that deceit is ever likely to be dispelled or is not in main essentials justified.

The public will only show genuine enthusiasm about a simple building when as the result of grouping or form the simplicity lends itself to a complexity of effect. It will willingly admire a simple house if the roof lines and plan afford interest, making up for the absence of detail which it normally regards as a part of a well designed building.

Plain, unbroken wall spaces are anathema to the

average man, and the buildings in which they occur either have to be sheltered by the name and reputation of a known architect of eminence or by the curtain of antiquity, which we may say silences much criticism which would otherwise be heard. It is exceedingly doubtful whether even Wren's work would meet with lay approval were it not considered as a *chose jugée* and therefore immune from criticism, but let a modern designer give a church committee a design in the Wren manner it would probably meet with instant disapproval. The public does not like simplicity unless it is regarded as a means to cheapness, and accepts it for that reason or, as frequently happens, from sheer indifference.

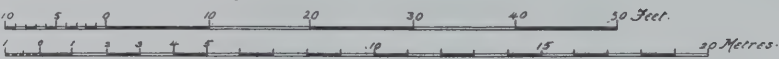
An inspired Press and the word of a few eminent architects could, in fact, swing round so-called public opinion to the standards of the Gothic Revival, and church architecture is still to the average man a "thing of crockets and tracery."

Just occasionally such expressions of approval as were expressed about the Cenotaph seem to indicate that the public are moving with the current of architectural thought, but they are few and far between—too few and infrequent to afford any belief that new convictions are moving the public.

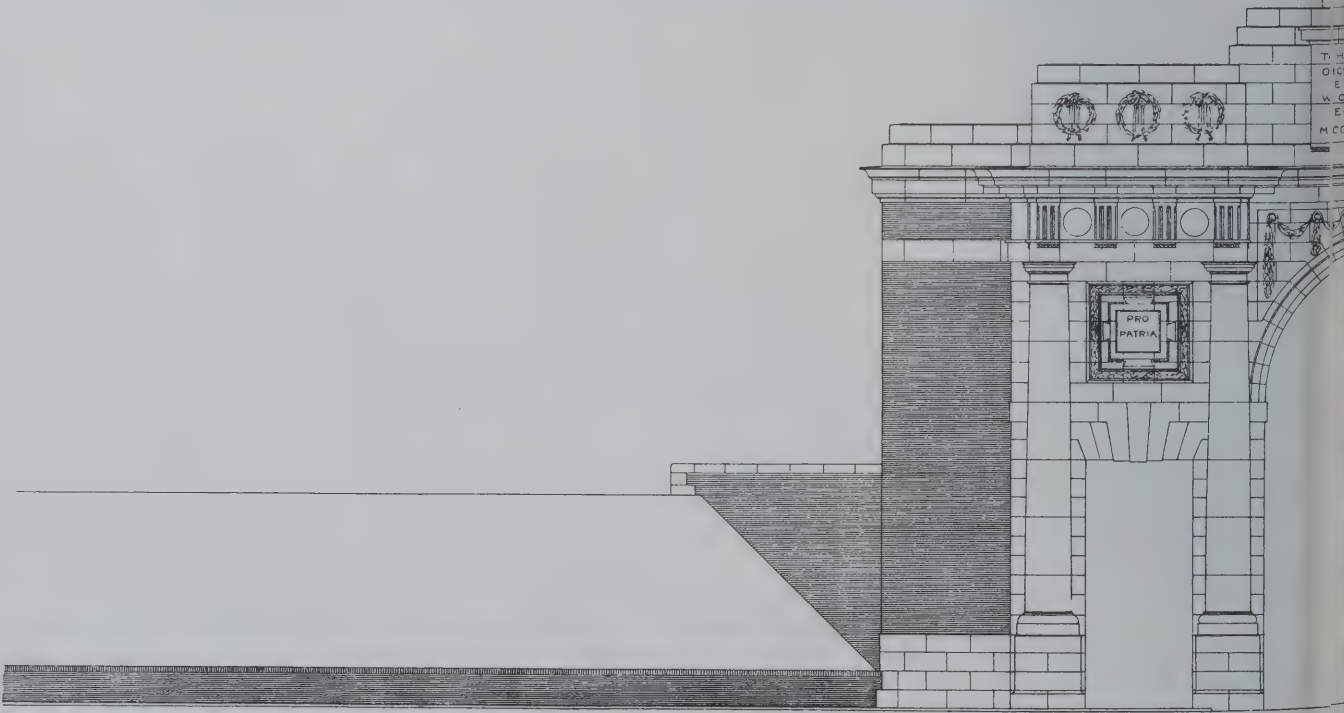
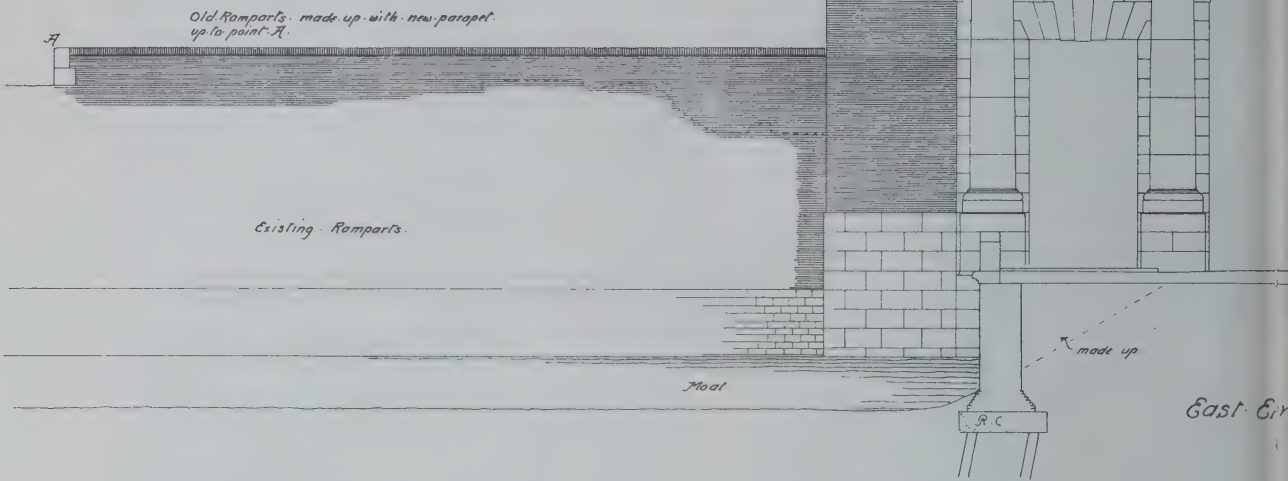
Meanwhile, we think that architects should ask

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Design for Memorial to the Missing.
The Menin Gate, Ypres.
Details 1/8 inch to 1 foot.

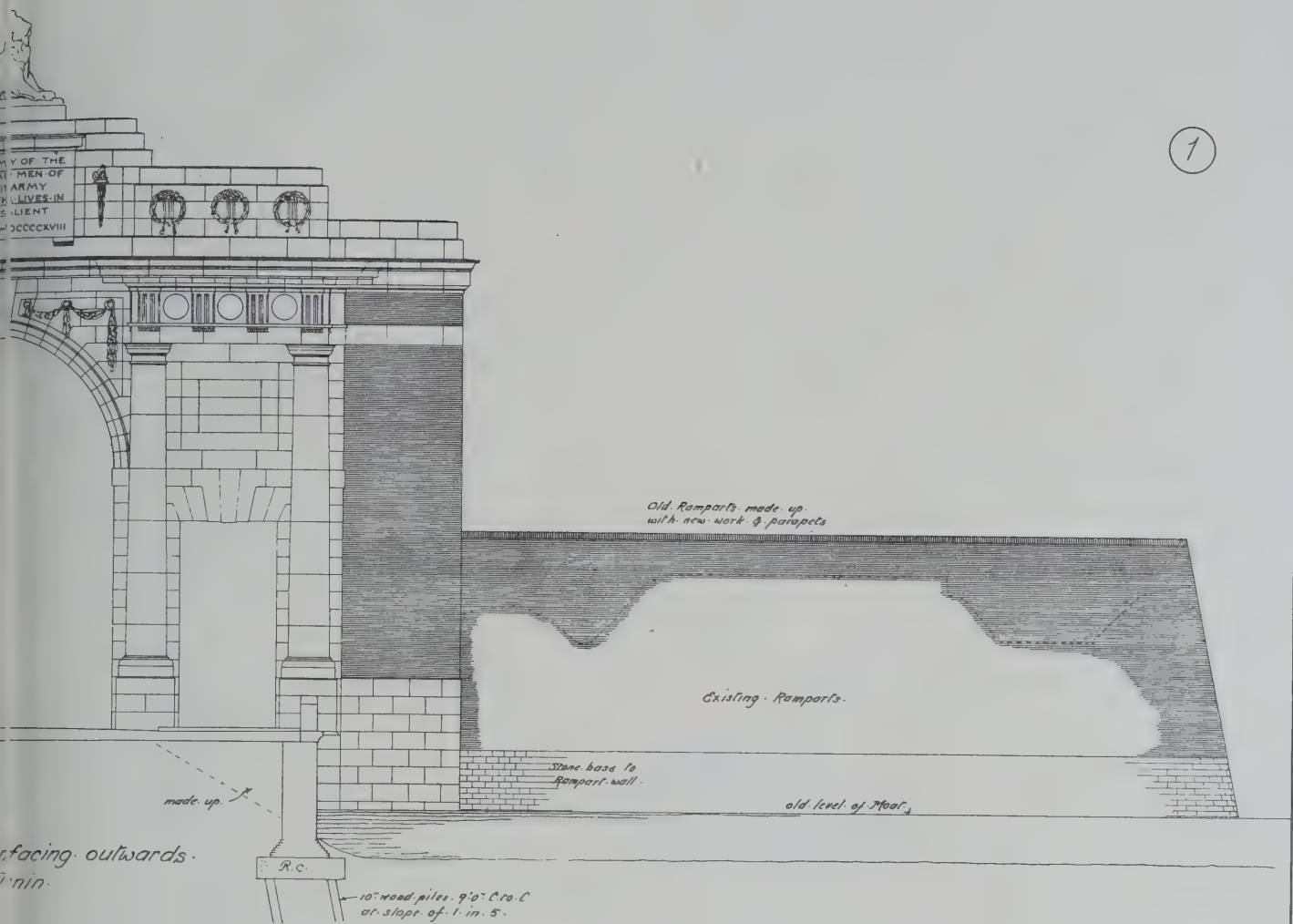


Sept. 1922.
Reginald. Blomfield, R.A. architect.
New Court, Temple.
London

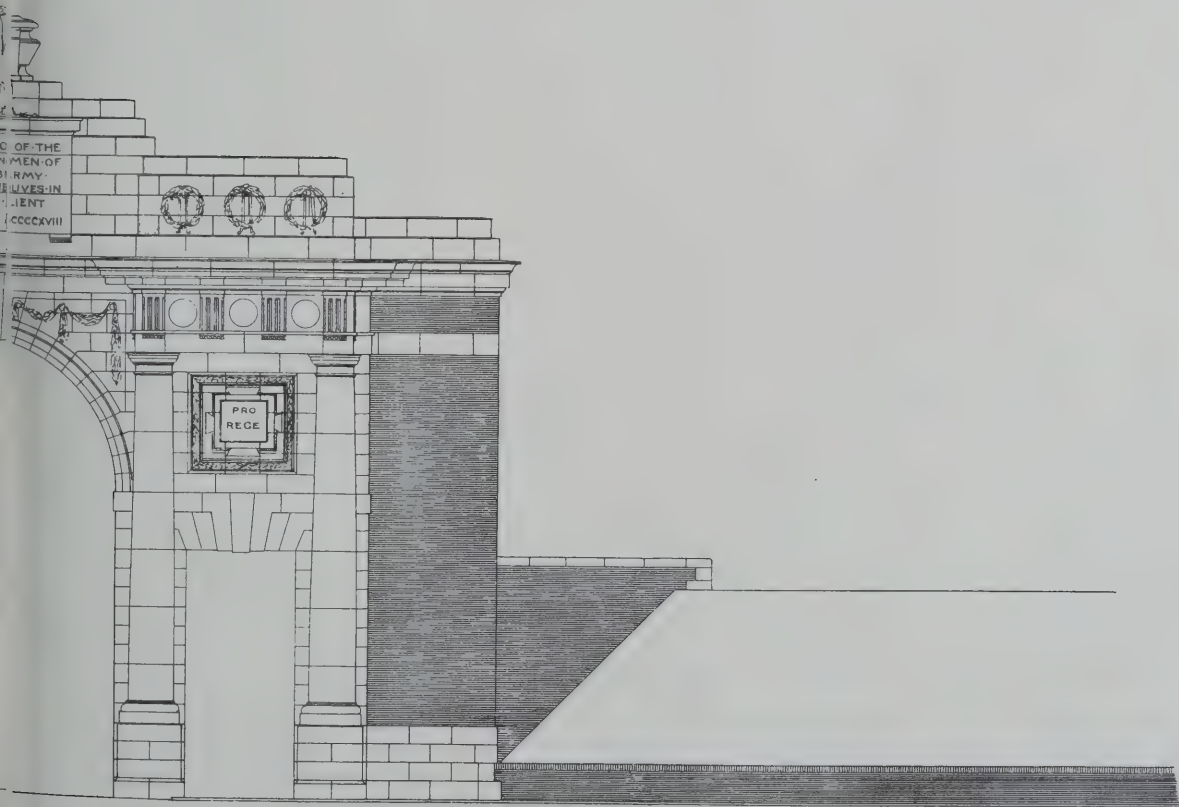


West Elevation

AUGUST 14th, 1925.



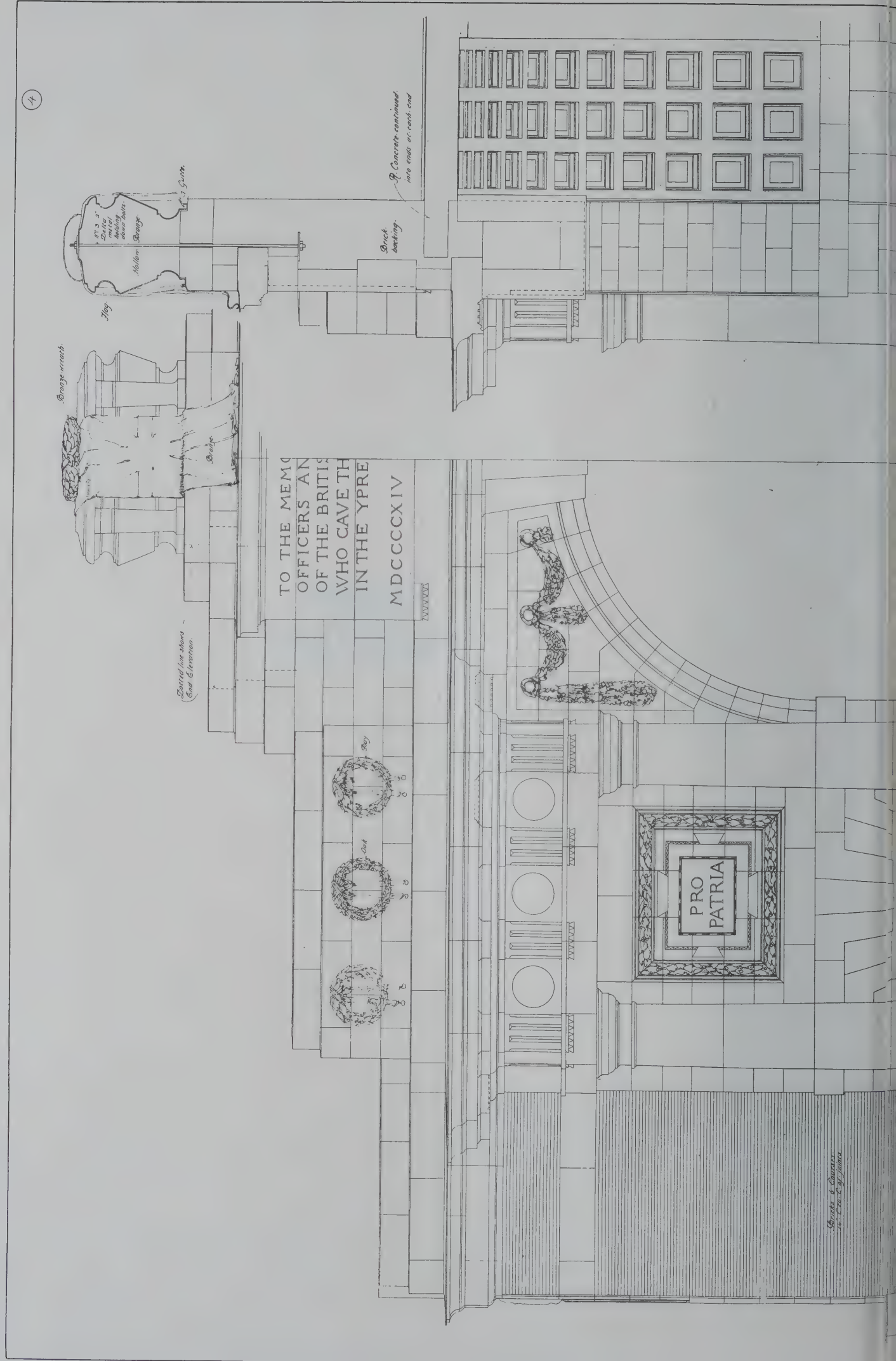
facing outwards.



to the Town

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Our Illustrations.

DESIGN FOR MEMORIAL TO THE MISSING, THE MENIN GATE, YPRES.

HALF WEST ELEVATION FACING TO YPRES. SECTION THROUGH ARCHWAY, LOOKING N.

HALF PLAN OF ARCHWAY. PLAN OF SOFFIT OF CORNICE.

EAST ELEVATION FACING OUTWARDS TO MENIN. WEST ELEVATION FACING TO THE TOWN.

HALF TRANSVERSE SECTION LOOKING EAST. ELEVATION OF ARCHWAY TO STAIRS.

PLAN OF STAIRS AT A B.

SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD, R.A., Architect.



CANADA HOUSE, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W. SEPTIMUS WARWICK, Architect.

themselves whether the simplicity of negation is a thing admirable in itself and whether it can afford a basis for a living architectural style. We believe it cannot, and that it is bound to lead to a quagmire. Some of the schools have given these attempts their benison, and some good designers are attempting to lead the way, but we believe that a better lead is given by those whose work shows a greater regard for precedent, and we certainly think that such work is more likely to appeal to the public. After all, there was something in Ruskin's theory that as a building cut out light and

air, which were desirable things in themselves, it should in return be capable of affording intrinsic pleasure to those who saw it. We are inclined to think that the public, so far as it can be said to have an opinion on architectural design, either demands variety in form or a certain richness in detail, and those who advocate the stark nakedness of utilitarian form are unlikely to commend themselves to popular approval. We question whether they are on right lines and whether in this matter popular criticism has not some little justification.

Notes and Comments.

The Limitations of Machinery.

Possibly one of the minor causes of labour difficulties in the present times is the belief which is prevalent that by the use of machinery we should be able to eliminate the hardships of labour and dispense with work. As a matter of fact the machine is a useful servant, but an impossible master. In the building trade it has eliminated many processes and conduced to speeding up others, but without the trained joiner the most efficient woodworking machines are largely useless. We have concrete mixers, but they want feeding by manual labour, while bricklaying and masonry are largely unaffected by the inventions of the last century. The use of machinery has doubtless been a large factor in making increase of wages practicable, but the lesson of the present times is that we have failed to sufficiently consider the great importance of willing labour in the production of cheap goods. The necessity for willing labour should be as clear to the working classes as it is to any other, for without it the cost of living, that great stumbling block at present, must remain high. We cannot get back to comparative comfort or look forward to getting value for money until every class in the community will work better and more willingly. Whatever the future may bring for us, we have, it would seem, by experiment and test found the limits of what machinery can effect for us.

The Dogma of the Front Door.

Edmonton is said to be amused because in some of the new houses recently erected under a Labour Council the back doors face the street, while the front doors open into the back garden. We remember the case of a lady who was considering plans for a house to be built on a site facing north. The architect planned the house in the manner demanded, with the main rooms facing due north, and then made a second plan giving them the advantage of a southern aspect over the garden. This second plan met with short shrift. "The front's the front and the back's the back," the client said, and insisted on a larder being arranged with due south aspect. The lady is now no longer living, but whether as the result of her inability to understand the advantages of sunlight we do not know. We consider a front door may reasonably be anywhere, always assuming it is not difficult to find, but the spell of the "front" still influences a great number of people, and these give an architect a good deal of trouble. We have little doubt that the Edmonton houses, which were designed, we believe, by Messrs. Niven & Wigglesworth, are well and reasonably arranged and that the criticism they have been subjected to is unreasonable, but, we may add, in the present state of opinion very natural.

The American Small House Bureau.

The American Institute of Architects has given a general approval to an undertaking entitled "The Small House Service Bureau," and the President of the Bureau, who has since been elected Secretary of the Institute, has interviewed many architects as to its advisability and utility. He finds that the arguments for and against it may be summarised as under:—

THE ARGUMENT CONTRA.

1. If people should find they could buy cheap plans for small houses they wouldn't be willing to pay the architect's fee for medium sized or even large work.
2. The Bureau would compete with architects.
3. The Bureau was taking the bread out of the mouth of the "small architect."
4. The Bureau would make it impossible for young men to "get started."
5. The "standardisation" of homes would be undesirable.
6. The idea was un-American.
7. The whole project was too likely to be commercialised.
8. It was a bad influence generally.

9. It was especially bad for architects to sell plans to be "used over again."

10. It was too commercial for architects to "co-operate" with lumber companies or other material people in selling books of plans.

11. The architect's life was said to be hard enough anyway without adding further complications to it.

THE ARGUMENT PRO.

1. That some of the large lumber companies were offering free plans for those who bought their lumber.

2. That such practice in the past had been totally unregulated, and if extended to larger houses, would threaten the architects' business.

3. The Bureau, under the control of the Institute, by developing a high standard service of good plans, could regulate the quality of the plans offered by material people.

4. The practice of material dealers of supplying free plans might be gradually lessened if the Bureau exercised a dominating position.

5. Architects have not usually been retained for small six-room houses, the largest size allowed to be handled by the Bureau.

6. Not more than 20 per cent. of small house work has been handled by architects in the past.

7. The Bureau might actually increase the contact of the small home owner with architects.

8. The Bureau might prove itself invaluable in educating the public and in training its taste toward the appreciation of good architecture.

It seems to us that such questions must be absolutely determined by the service rendered or supposed by the public to be rendered by such organisations. It is interesting, but not pertinent, to consider whether such a project will do good or harm to architects' interests, as its success or failure will be determined by other and different considerations. It is curious to find many architects who discuss such a subject as this with a certain amount of heat and from the sole angle of their own interests, for it is clear that if the public can get what it requires more cheaply or easily by other means than employing the profession they will do so.

The Coal Settlement.

Whether we shall find we have real reason for congratulation about the interim arrangements made to avert a coal strike is, we think, very doubtful. On the face of things it is unpleasantly like a concession to threats, especially as the colliers' organisation absolutely refused to consider the possibility of working an 8 hours day which would at one and the same time have increased output and diminished working costs, in fact, the net result would have been to increase earnings, even if the reductions demanded by the owners had been conceded. We are much afraid that the commission of investigation will discover nothing that is not known already, and although it is easy to advocate improvements in the equipment of mines it must not be forgotten that such improvements are usually very costly, and that the owners have little inducement to further increase their capital outlay in view of the uncertain and difficult attitude of labour. In any case the subsidisation of an industry by the Government is a very serious step, considering the present financial burdens of the taxpayer.

MONKTON.—Final plans are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for an elementary school at Monkton.

FINCHLEY.—Tenders are being invited for the provision of a refuse destructor.—A loan of £10,000 is to be obtained for the central depot scheme.—Plans passed: 10 garages, Nether Street, for Mr. C. Brown; alterations, Derwent House, Regent's Park Road, for Rev. Father Hogan; 4 houses, Southway, for M. L. C. Gibson; infants' wing, laundry, etc., Wright-Kingsford Home, Granville Road for Children's Home Trustees; 18 garages, Hutton Grove, for Mr. William Daniel; additions, Hamilton Hall, Hendon Lane, for Y.W.C.A. Trustees.

A Modern Architectural Eclecticism.

By Arnold Whittick.

In an article entitled "The Revival of Design" in the April number of the "Edinburgh Review," Mr. Frank Rutter endeavours to show how in all ages of artistic activity there is usually one dominating art that strongly affects the tendencies of the other arts. In England during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries up to the mid-Victorian period literature was the dominating art, so influencing painting that the slogan "Every picture tells a story" became a commonplace. But later in the Victorian era a change towards music as the dominating art occurred, and we had the rhythmical prose of Pater and Stevenson, the poetry of Swinburne and Christina Rossetti, and the painting of Whistler, and many, more recent artists, who seemed wholly governed by "musical law" in their creations. But now, Mr. Rutter informs us, another change is taking place and architecture is ascending to the throne but lately occupied by music. And architecture influences the other arts: painting, music, and literature, too, in prompting a greater attention to structure and design. In painting, for instance, it is shown in the scrupulous attention to pattern: to the balancing of masses and rhythms of line.

There is much that is highly suggestive in these contentions, and they undoubtedly approach very nearly to truth. But towards the end of the article Mr. Rutter expresses an opinion (though little connected with his main theme) which touches a question of the first importance in architectural design. He says:—

"It is a commonplace of criticism to say that contemporary architecture is endeavouring to 'reconcile Gothic vitality with classic symmetry.' If so, our architects are endeavouring to reconcile irreconcilables. The Greek temple and the Gothic cathedral are the perfect fruits of the two most perfect systems of architecture which the wit of man has yet devised; but the ideas which animated them are utterly incompatible. The first is static; the second is dynamic. The Greek temple is based on resignation and quiescence; the Gothic cathedral is founded on energy and aspiration. At the same moment no man and no building can be both perfectly quiet and perfectly energetic. The architects of the twentieth century have got to make up their minds which is to be their aim."

That opinion demonstrates how the academic adhesion to principles founded *exclusively* on the two most vividly antithetical of architectural styles, and consequently formulated with insufficient data, may produce an entire misconception of one of the chief modern developments in architectural style. It amounts to a resolute denial of any possibility of these two distinct forms gradually coming together, forsaking in the process something, it may be, of their distinctive characteristics, yet in their mingling creating something new and perhaps as beautiful as when they are apart. It is obvious that no building can, at the same moment, be both perfectly quiet and perfectly energetic, yet is there any reason why a little quiescence on the one hand and a little energy on the other should not be forsaken, and what were once antithetical styles mingle in harmony, correcting perhaps an excess of the other, and thus more truthfully expressing the spirit of the age? In face of Mr. Rutter's comments the first modern building that springs to mind, which reveals an attempt at mingling the essential Greek and Gothic attributes, is Liverpool Cathedral. Here the breadth and repose of a Greek temple are blended with the forms and aspiring character of Gothic architecture. The emphasis of vertical lines, which conduces so much to the spirit of aspiration, is preserved in the buttresses and long vertical interior piers running into the pointed arches; yet withal, a feeling of repose is blended with that impression by arranging large unbroken rectangular spaces, and long horizontal lines in a few principal parts. The energy and somewhat restless character of many a Gothic cathedral is thus modified. Sir Gilbert Scott himself says* that "in most Gothic cathedrals the emphasis of the vertical is unduly stressed and thereby a great deal of calm and serenity is sacrificed,

and a feeling of restlessness which tends to destroy repose and peace." And further, "it comes to a question of balance, like everything in Nature, and at Liverpool I have endeavoured to combine the uplifting character imparted by vertical expression with the restful calm undoubtedly given by judicious use of horizontals." And so "subsequent alterations that have taken place have all been with a view to reducing the vertical character, and thereby emphasising the influence of the horizontals." Mr. Rutter's "reconciling irreconcilables" is, in reality, as Professor Reilly says,† achieving "a repose, solidity and strength unknown before in Gothic work." "This," he continues, "is Sir Gilbert Scott's definite contribution to the development of Gothic architecture and it is no small thing."

This tendency of blending the breadth and repose of Greek architecture with the aspiration and energy of Gothic is becoming the chief characteristic of much modern church designing and much memorial work. Sir Gilbert Scott's creations offer the best examples of both, of the latter the memorial at Old Windsor being particularly significant. Other examples are afforded by the church work of Messrs. Brierly and Rutherford, the proposed "Argles" Memorial Church of St. Clad, Yorkshire, in the present Academy, being typical; though it is perhaps not so pleasing in design as their exquisite War Memorial Chapel for Durham School. And nearer London there is Mr. Edward Maufe's design of the Church and Institute at Clapham Road.

Enough has been said to show that in an influential Quarterly the most important architectural eclecticism of modern times has been denounced as a mistake, and that in a criticism supported by the very persuasive opposition of static and dynamic attributes. It would be well to reconsider the two distinct conceptions of life underlying these attributes and examine their relation to modern times.

The monolithic character of the Greek temple enshrining the God within, expresses the spirit of resignation—to fate, to death as final and irrevocable. The mystic cultus known as Orphism that Polygnotus seems to have expressed in the Lesche paintings so minutely described by Pausanias; the vague notions of a beautiful land in the West and of Hades derived from Homer; and the theories of Platonists, were but the religious speculations of fanciful minds. Orphism probably stood in the same relation to Greek thought that Theosophy, its modern counterpart, does to the thought of to-day, an influence in both cases of little moment. In spite of these the religious feeling of the average educated Greek was that of resignation to the thought that death is the end. It is revealed consistently in the sad farewell scenes on the Greek stelæ of the fifth and fourth centuries—a source of information as to the feelings of the Greek people far more reliable than the fancies of theorists or the entertaining speculations of philosophers. Does not Pindar say "desire not a life immortal, but use to the utmost the tools that are in thine hand"? And similar is the sentiment that pervades the famous funeral oration of Pericles, he who ruled in Athens when its greatest architectural glories arose. This resignation emanates, of course, from the Greek worship of reason, and hence a rationalism, a philosophical acceptance of the inevitable which gives to their creations a serenity and repose, tinged here and there with a beautiful melancholy.

A Gothic cathedral energetically struggles to be free from all such resignation. It is the restless striving towards heaven, the fervent worship of the God in heaven that, to the Mediæval mind, existed somewhere above in the ethereal blue. Pillars within stretching in long vertical lines to the pointed arches and vaulted roofs, and towers and steeples without soaring upwards to the sky all express in unison fervent worship and heavenly aspiration. As Goethe says: "The steeples are not like cupolas, to form a heaven within, but to strive towards heaven without." And what was this present life to the Christian, contemporary with the raising of these cathedrals, but a prepara-

* "Morning Post," July 19, 1924.

† "Country Life," June 28, 1924.

tion for the next. His life was a constant worship and glorification of God, a constant aspiration to be worthy of the richer and greater life to come, and he expressed this spirit in his places of worship.

Two more complete contrasts of form and spirit can scarcely be imagined. Yet that greatest emotional and intellectual movement in the history of mankind, the Renaissance, was but the intermingling of Christianity with Greek culture. Those eager thinkers of the fifteenth century feverishly endeavoured to reconcile forces that to them appeared almost irreconcilable. A great civilisation, often noble and beautiful in its thought, existed before Christ was known, and not as the herald of Christ, but in many important ways distinctly different from the things that Christ taught. And so many, like Pico della Mirandola, seized the most Christian-like of the Greeks, as the chief ray of hope in their attempted reconciliations, but ultimately almost gave up the task in despair. These eager minds are of value to-day only as throwing light on one of the most interesting periods in the development of thought. The reconciliation that they attempted was destined to lead to something else. Greek religious thought and Christianity have never been reconciled, but they have intermingled, and the modern world is the richer for it. The passing years have shown that by taking the best of Christianity and the best of Greek culture and action, we achieve a bigger, fuller life than each can give us separately. The modern world dates from the Renaissance, a movement not yet completed, for that intermingling of the two chief sources of emotional and intellectual life is constantly going on and fresh contributions are made every year. Much in the older Christian doctrines is now rejected as gross superstition, much of the fervid Christian sentimentalism is calmed by a reason inherited from the Greeks, much mediæval bigoted and philistine morality, which had a late outburst in the Puritans, has been rationalised by the Greek love of beauty. It is not too fanciful to carry the notion to architecture and see in Liverpool Cathedral and buildings in a kindred style, an expression of the blending of these two main forces in our lives. In sharing the spirit of such work we are but children of the Renaissance experiencing the richness of our inheritance.

Book Notes.

"Design in Modern Life and Industry." Published by Ernest Benn, Ltd. 15s. net.

This fascinating book is the Year Book of the Design and Industries Association, whose motto is "Fitness for Purpose."

This phrase explains most of the ideals of the Association; the betterment of the design of common things being the chief. Because a thing is for everyday use that is surely no excuse for it being badly designed and therefore ugly. The Association was founded in 1915 to assist and encourage this movement for better work, and it held that the aim of "encouraging good workmanship based on excellence of design and soundness of material," could only be attained, "through the intelligent and friendly co-operation of workers, designers, manufacturers, distributors, educators, and the general public."

As anyone who studies the trend of design of much of the modern work in furniture for instance can see there is a great deal of room for improvement in design. The astonishing part is, that in a world where there is such a mass of the finest work extant to inspire the designers of our furniture, glass and china, and such like everyday things, the bad examples one sees everywhere to-day are the rule, rather than the exception.

Any effort that tends to make these things more beautiful and more fit for the purpose they were intended should receive every support.

We are learning to do afresh now what seemed to come naturally in past days, especially in the 18th century, to take a recent era, when most things which were made for utility, were also beautiful, a state of affairs that unfortunately does not obtain at the present day.

To return to the book before us. The influence of design in modern life is followed through "home surroundings, in the domestic equipment, in travelling, in offices and factories, and in the relationship of commerce with everyday life." There are pages of excellent photographs of architectural detail, beautiful furniture, china, and glass, exhibition stands and buildings, commercial labels, posters, and many interesting things that are connected with design and industry.

A book which deals with the beautiful no less than the useful.

E. L. G.

"Modern Building Practice." The "Little Things that Matter" Series. Vol. II, by William Harvey. London: The Architectural Press, 9 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster. 5s. net.

This useful little book contains chapters dealing with sites and their soil, and the making of paths and gates, country methods of sewage disposal, the house and household stores, ventilation, windows and flues, keeping out the weather, leaky windows and doors, and reinforcement in general practice. It is well illustrated by numerous line diagrams. The chapter on reinforcement is too short and elementary to be of much use and might, in a work of this character, have been omitted. This would have allowed for a useful expansion of the chapter on drainage, in which illustrations of some of the simpler forms of septic tanks might well have been given. The author favours the use of service hatches which we have usually found in practice to be a mistake. The fewer openings that are made into a room of moderate size the more comfortable it will be, and a convenient disposition of adjacent doors will usually serve every practical purpose. But on the whole this is a good and useful little book.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

AUGUST 14, 1875.

THE SOUTH-EASTERN AND BLACKFRIARS JUNCTION RAILWAY.

The new line of railway which the South-Eastern Company are constructing between their Cannon Street, London Bridge and Charing Cross Section and the Blackfriars Station of the London, Chatham and Dover line is being vigorously proceeded with; the connection between the South-Eastern Company's system and that of the London, Chatham and Dover Company is expected to be completed in the course of the present year. The South-Eastern Company will thus be placed in direct communication with the railway systems of the Midland and the Great Northern *via* Blackfriars and Ludgate Hill. The new line diverges from the Cannon Street and Charing Cross line at Southwark Bridge Road, running, however, directly parallel with it on the north side until it arrives near Gravel Lane, but before coming to that point it is built for several yards southwards over the Cannon Street and Charing Cross line, in order to admit of the gradual curve northwards by which the new line will be carried over Gravel Lane, and in continuation, in the direction of Price Street, Blackfriars, where it forms a junction with the London, Chatham and Dover line, immediately before entering the Blackfriars Station. In consequence of the new line being so built over the Charing Cross line, the rails of the latter to that extent will be diverted on the south side, and a new parapet wall will be built. There are twenty-six arches between the point of divergence at Southwark Bridge Road and Gravel Lane, and although the works were only commenced in April, the whole of these arches are already almost completed. The level of the Chatham and Dover line at Blackfriars being so much higher than that of the South-Eastern, the gradients are severe, being one in ninety. The line will be carried over Gravel Lane by a massive skew girder bridge, at an altitude of about 35 ft. above the street level, and thence onwards to the junction at Blackfriars on arches, resting on abutments 8 feet in thickness. The foundations for these abutments on the north-west side of Gravel Lane, which are now in progress, are 24 feet in depth and 12 feet in width, filled in with concrete. In excavating for these foundations the gravel stratum below the Thames was arrived at, and an engine is at work day and night to pump out the water. The height of the arches at the point of junction at Blackfriars will be 42 feet above the ground level. We understand that it is the intention of the South-Eastern Company to erect a large goods station at the north-eastern side of Gravel Lane.

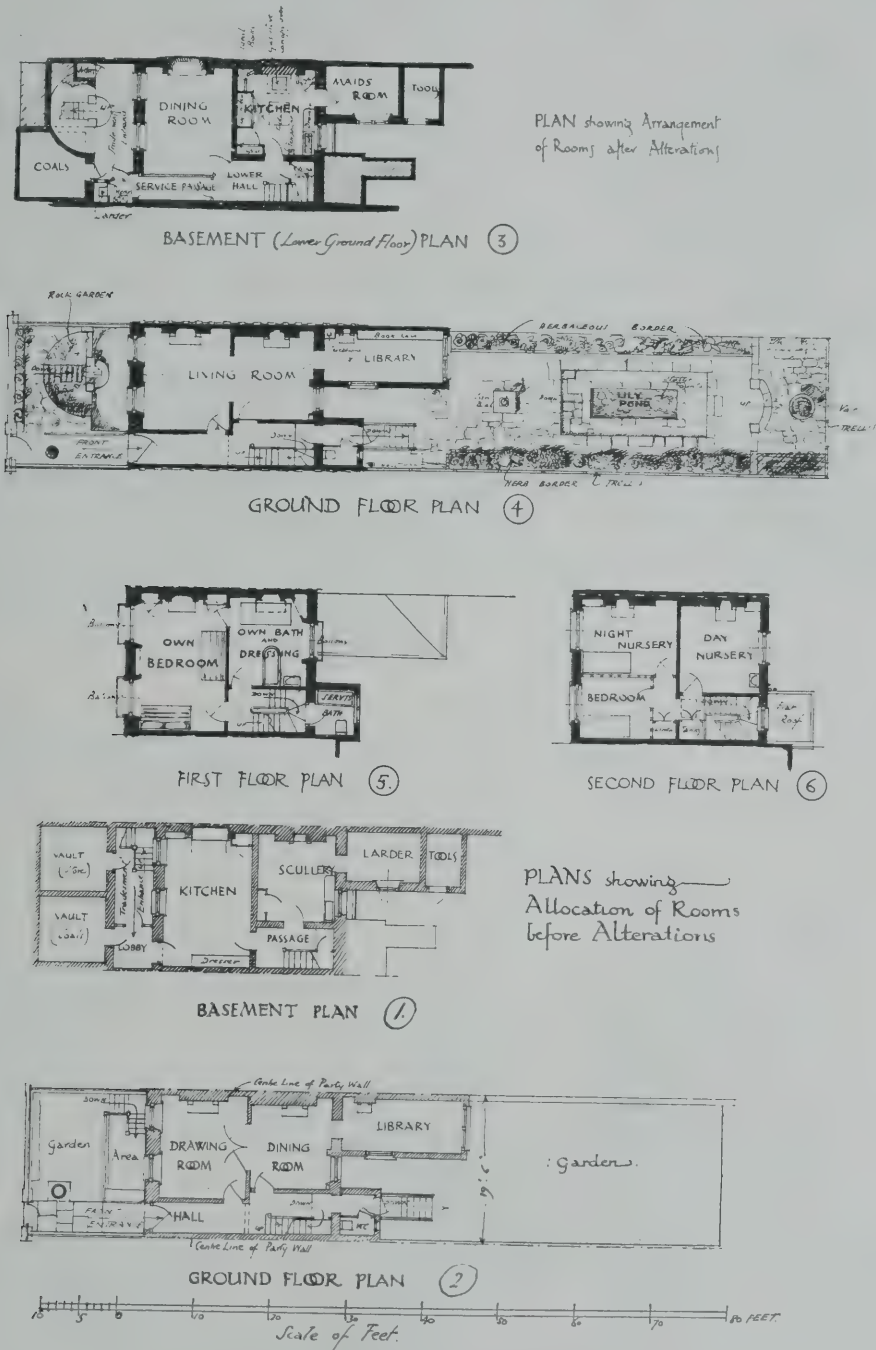
28 Edwardes Square, Kensington, W.8.

This small house, which was one of the few untouched remaining examples of the original Edwardes Square houses, was recently acquired by Mr. G. Howard Nash, C.B.E., Chief Engineer of the Western Electric Co., and an inventor of world wide repute; well known in naval circles for his celebrated hydrophone, more commonly known as the "Nash Fish," which did so much to save these islands from the submarine peril.

After acquiring this property Mr. Nash called in Mr. W. T. Benslyn, A.R.I.B.A., to advise him on various ideas which he had for the alteration of this house, to make it

The problem really centred on how to get light into the basement. This was done by forming a garden, semi-spherical in shape, over the vaults and placing the steps leading to the tradesmen's entrance in the centre of same, this adequately lights the dining room, formerly kitchen, see photos 1 and 2, exterior and interior respectively.

The problem of the back door was solved by taking off a passage along one side of the kitchen, and placing a small larder near the entrance door. The entrance is immediately under the main entrance, but not visible from it, being



PLAN SHOWING RECONSTRUCTION AND CONDITION OF THE BUILDING PRIOR TO BUILDING OPERATIONS.

possible for it to be worked by one servant if necessary. It was decided to alter the exterior as little as possible, a casual inspection of some of the houses, previously altered in the Square, shows one how easily one can lose the character of the period, and at the same time destroy the effective light and air and garden space available.

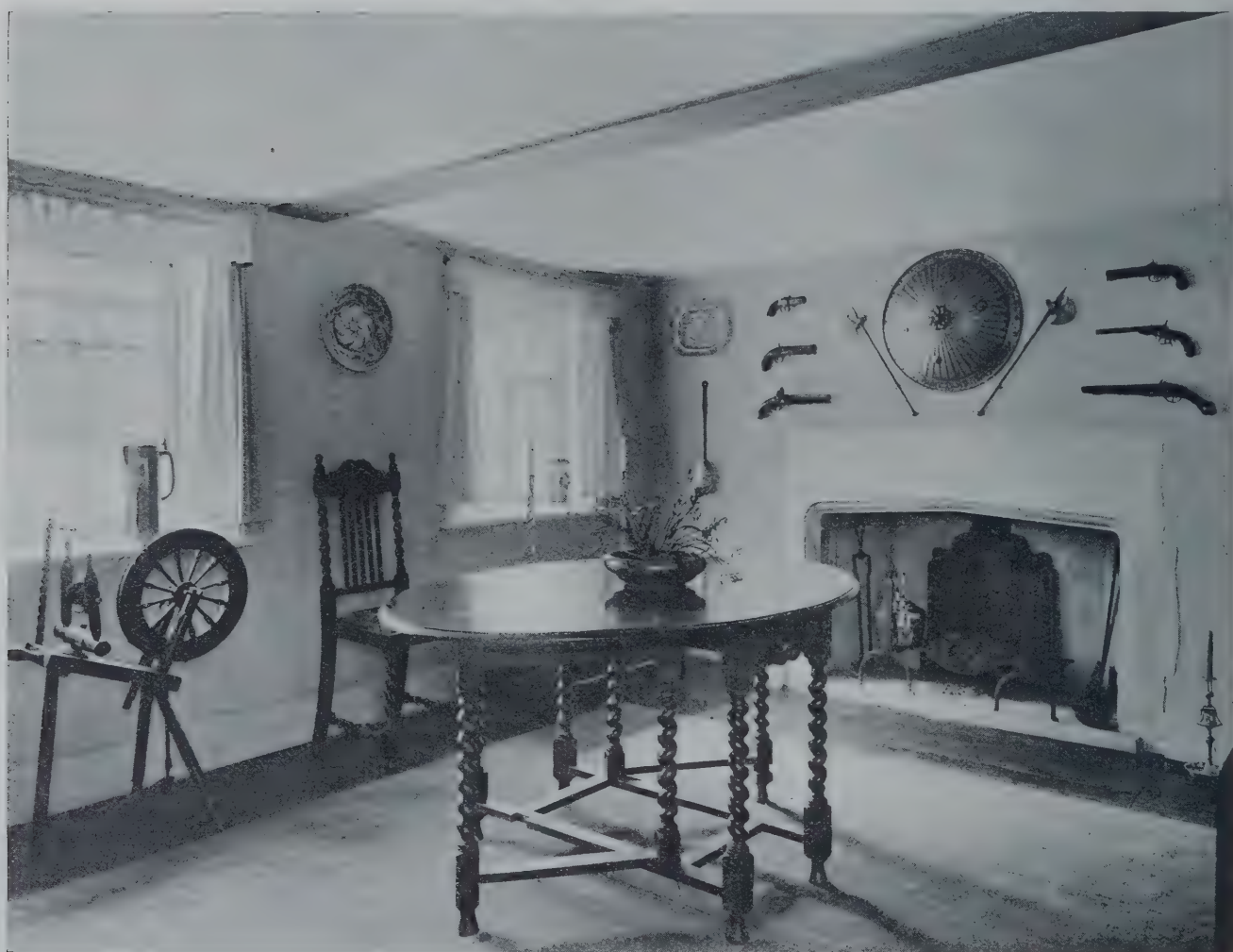
The drawings 1 and 2 shows the ground plan and first floor as existing when the property was purchased. Drawings 3 and 4 show them as altered. Little was done on the first and second floors except the division of the large front room on the second floor.

covered by the stone paved landing leading to the front door. The electric meter and gas meter are placed here. The greater portion of one of the vaults has been retained for coals, the other vault has been filled in, except for a small portion in one angle, reserved as a home for the ashbin.

Good access from the entrance hall to these lower rooms has been made by leaving in the existing staircase, but removing the spandril and door which formerly separated the basement quarters from the entrance hall. A small lobby is formed at the bottom of this staircase, from which



VIEW OF RECONSTRUCTED FRONT GARDEN.



28 EDWARDES SQUARE, W.8: DINING ROOM WHICH WAS FORMERLY A DARK BASEMENT KITCHEN.



28 EDWARDES SQUARE, W.8: INTERIOR VIEW.

doors to service passage, dining room and kitchen open. An efficient china pantry has been made under this staircase. The former scullery has been fitted up as a labour-saving kitchen, all cooking being done by gas, and an ideal domestic boiler lagged has been supplied. The problem of the placing of the hot cylinder has been solved by forming a cupboard round it, and also using thick lagging. The former larder becomes a maid's sitting-room.

Returning to the ground floor, the rooms which were formerly used as dining room, drawing room, and library have been made into one large room, by the removal of the large folding doors. The first part of this is intended to serve the usual reception purposes of a drawing room, the second makes an effective music room, and the third portion has a bookcase down the whole of one wall, making a most pleasant library, see photos 3 and 4.

As this house is only intended for a small family, with nurse and one or two servants, the first floor has been given up entirely to a private suite. Own bedroom at front and the smaller back bedroom fitted up as a combined dressing and bath room, in which a bed can be placed in an emergency.

The bath in this room being of a private nature it was found necessary to floor over the back addition, containing the ground floor W.C. and cloaks, and to raise it about six feet, thus forming a servants' bathroom and W.C. The second floor is devoted to servant's bedroom, day and night nursery, with ample linen cupboards, heated by a coil from the domestic supply and another housing the water tank, which it was not possible to place in the roof, which is of the "M" type.

The whole of the internal plumbing, including cold water supply is new. As one might imagine in the house of an inventor, a special feature has been made of the telephones, which communicate from each main room to the kitchen, a clever idea being the introduction of three

bells at kitchen level and three at second floor level, each pair being synchronised so that if the servant is at the top of the house she knows which bell is ringing as easily as if she were in the kitchen level.

By making use of the spaces left in the old lath-and-plaster work it has been possible to run all pipes and mains for telephones, bells, plumbing, domestic hot water, electric light and gas, secretly. The whole of the work was carried out by Messrs. Callingham & Co., to the drawings made by and under the supervision of Mr. W. T. Benslyn, A.R.I.B.A., Architect, 5 Lancaster Place, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.2.

The idea all along has been to preserve the old character as much as possible, and where it was necessary to introduce new fittings the old mouldings were copied; in the case of the dining room, on account of the low ceiling it was treated as a room of an earlier period, with a stone Tudor arched fireplace and plastered walls, finished with a wood float and left uncoloured.

We think this a particularly happy instance of the co-operation of owners with their architect. Mrs. Nash



28 EDWARDES SQUARE, W.8: INTERIOR VIEW.

arranging her colour scheme and furniture in a most effective manner. The cost of the whole including architect's fees was under £800.

Mr. Wilfred E. Ellis, builder and contractor, has removed from 176 Blackhorse Lane, E.17, to more modern and commodious offices and works at Watford Road, Watford, Herts. His telegraphic address is Wilfre's, Watford, and telephone No. Watford 1149.

Boyle's patent "Air Pump" ventilator has been applied to the Fidelity Masonic Lodge, Devonport. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Netley Abbey Revisited.

By H. A. J. Lamb, A.R.I.B.A.



LOOKING ON TO NORTH WALL AND WEST WINDOW.

In connection with the ruined Abbeys of Bayham and Beaulieu, about which I gave a brief description recently, there is yet another famous abbey in Hampshire which should be mentioned, since it was founded shortly after Beaulieu Abbey came into existence and was further inhabited by the monks of the Cistercian Order who came from there.

Netley Abbey, whose striking ruin is situated practically on the south-east banks of Southampton Water, and barely half a mile, perhaps, in a direct line from the great docks which harbour the biggest liners of the world, from whose decks as they pass it would be possible to see the ruins but for a sheltering screen of trees.

Record has it that Peter de Rupibus, who was made Bishop of Winchester in 1204, was responsible for the building of this fine abbey. A Frenchman by birth, he had much influence with King John, and was exceedingly unpopular with the English barons, since his suggestion of heavy taxation led to the signing of the Magna Charta.

He retained his influence over Henry III, his intrigues brought him into exile in 1227, from which he returned in 1231. The Abbey was founded in 1239, a year after his death.

It is probable that the funds for building this abbey came from Beaulieu, previously richly endowed. With the reign of Henry VIII came the dissolution, the downfall of the Abbey and the dispersal of the monks.



CLOISTERS SHOWING ARCADE ON RIGHT LEADING INTO THE CHAPTER HOUSE.



EAST WINDOW OF THE CHOIR.

In 1700 the ruins were privately acquired and, in turn, sold to a local builder who proposed turning the stones to practical use. How much of the Abbey is visible to-day

is accounted for by the fact that this builder was haunted by recurring dreams which foretold of his death by falling stone if his plans materialised. Unheeding, he began his work of destruction and met his death as he in his dreams had been warned.

Years of neglect followed, trees and undergrowth rapidly hiding from sight the broken walls. It is only within the last century that steps have been taken to preserve what little is possible, and at the present moment the Board of Works are skilfully carrying out a system of strengthening by means of concealed steelwork any wall which shows signs of collapsing.

► The length of the church was 211 feet, more than a hundred feet shorter than that at Beaulieu, the length of the transepts being 117 feet, those at Beaulieu being 186 feet.

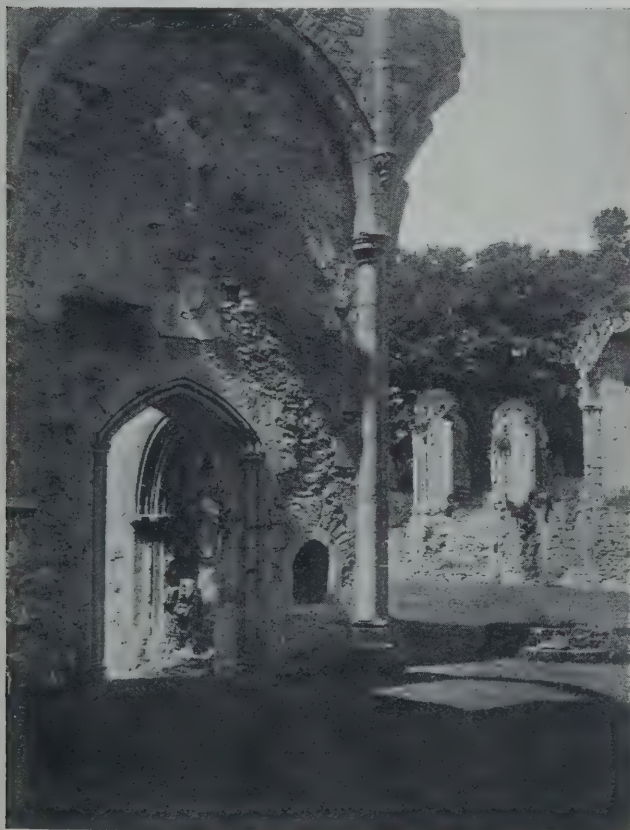
One photograph shows clearly the splendid preservation of three early English windows in the wall of the north aisle and the great arch of the west window.

Of the north transept nothing remains, the south transept walls remain above the triforium level, but are not generally accessible.

The cloisters cannot have been so beautiful as those at Beaulieu must have been, though on plan they are almost the same. The arcade leading to the chapter house is still practically intact. Of the monastic buildings remaining an apartment called the Guest Room is the most interesting, with its vaulted ceiling and large fireplace.

To the east of the main building lies the shell of what is supposed to have been the house of the visiting abbot.

From a visit to the ruins of Beaulieu and Netley one can come away with a very fair impression of the magnificence that once existed, and both are well worth the time and trouble expended. Southampton is a busy maze of streets and it may be difficult for the stranger to find the shortest route to Netley, but the easiest way is to cross by the ferry which runs continuously from a point near the docks station and is large enough to take at least a dozen motor-cars and several hundred passengers.



A CORNER OF SOUTH TRANSEPT AND PART OF THE NAVE ON THE RIGHT AND DOOR TO CLOISTERS ON LEFT.

French Architects' Statute.

Local Autonomy or Central Control—Objections to a Superior Council—Reciprocal Rights for Foreign Colleagues.

Although the project of professional protection prepared by the Society of French Government architects is likely to be, in its main lines at least, the chief source of inspiration for the draughtsmen of the coming law, it is not at all certain that the disciplinary powers it confers on a central organism will be accepted without serious modification. No doubt it is quite true to affirm that the suggested statute, in so far as it defines the rights of architects and the practical provisions essential to their safeguard, is in conformity with the common conceptions of the vast majority of the corporation. Nevertheless it fails to give satisfaction to a body of opinion on a point which is not negligible in a classic country of "centralisation" where the drawbacks of such a system are not merely demonstrated in theoretical theses but tangibly experienced in the daily routine of civic and professional life.

The scheme with which our readers are already familiar, aims at creating in Paris a Superior Council of the "Order of Architects," and in the provinces a series of more or less subordinate Regional Councils. The Superior Council would be the veritable official organ of the Order and its "artificial person" for the regulation of all non-local questions. It would give certain authorisations for exceptional admission to the roll of Architects, in accordance with rules framed by itself and approved of by the Fine Arts Ministry. It would vary, when expedient, the originally accepted code of professional obligations and would have a control or censorship over the domestic regulations of each region. In short, it would be the hierarchical head of the Order of Architects.

This concentration in the Capital of functions, the liberal and equitable exercise of which should be ensured by guarantees in harmony with the natural local aspiration for autonomy, encounters a criticism the effect of which is bound to make itself felt before any protective project assumes definite Parliamentary shape. The desire that important decisions should be inaccessible to the interested influence of any active *élite* is particularly obvious. These objections have been crystallised in a new edition of the measures which the Legislature is to be invited to impose in order to enable architects to effectually enjoy the just rights and the defensive discipline indispensable to both their prestige and their prosperity.

The General Assembly of the "Société Professionnelle d'Architectes français" have just voted the text in question. This document is preceded by an explanation, an examination of which is essential to a clear comprehension of the actual situation in France.

A DISTINCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE.

The members of this particular Society consider that the different projects put forward up to the present do not sufficiently distinguish between "two absolutely different regimes"; one concerning the access to the title itself, the other, the practical exercise of the profession.

To show that the distinction is not one of pure form it is pointed out that, while a Doctor in France, for instance, can only practise after having acquired a State diploma in a regular, determined way, no other regulation but the Law common to everybody is subsequently applicable to him and he is not "subject to any disciplinary professional Power."

The *Avocat* (Barrister), on the contrary, is controlled but without any outside overruling. First of all he obtains his title by complying with specific regulations to this effect. In matters of discipline he owes obedience to local Councils of his Order—purely professional organs devoid of any "central power."

The "Société Professionnelle" complains that the current projects of protection blend two desirably distinct things to the detriment of the profession. The question of whether a particular candidate should have access to the title of architect is a purely scientific and technical one, deter-

minable by any authority possessing the requisite professional knowledge and experience. The essential element of the composition of such an examining body is less the representative or non-representative rôle of its respective members than the unquestionable character of their competence. In the case of all careers protected by diplomas, it is quite normal to have aspirants tested by more or less *official* juries. No objection could therefore be made to a board of examiners on the ground that it is wholly or partly made up of officials or of architects nominated by Public Authorities.

The argument thus, inapplicable in this isolated instance, is perfectly valid as against the jurisdiction of such a body in matters of "internal regulation," that is to say, in the domain of the disciplinary power to be exercised for or against all men already admitted to the profession as "architects." It is repugnant to the independent and liberal mentality of members to be subject to the approval or disapproval of Councils not exclusively composed of architects elected without exception by their own colleagues.

The Society in question objects to any system of election of a disciplinary Council "which by a process of clever 'dosing' would inevitably give the majority to colleagues more or less officials or belonging to such or such a group"—a favoured few, presumed to merit a preference "to the detriment of the many." It believes that it is "with the same thought of centralisation, having for its ultimate object the monopoly of the high controlling Authority of our profession that the essential powers are conferred on a Superior Council to which the Regional Councils would be hierarchially subordinated. For us (declare the architects who voted this view) the primordial machinery is the Regional Council, knowing local habits and wants and having nevertheless a sufficiently extended radius of action enabling it to escape the influence of such intrigues as are possible in cases where groupings are too small."

This Regional Council "ought to enjoy complete autonomy" and have the necessary status, empowering it to procure adequate administrative resources by the collection of an obligatory tax as moderate as possible but proportionate to the "patent" payable by registered architects.

The authors of the preceding suggestions accept with approval the idea that the Presidents of the Regional Councils should meet once or several times a year to examine collectively questions of common interest or to decide by a vote between divergences of opinion manifesting themselves in the various provinces. Such a consultative Conference, the wishes of which would be communicated to the Regions concerned, in a purely advisory spirit, would have none of the drawbacks of a Superior Council. It would be the most acceptable alternative to a Centralisation propitious to the control of castes. Under such a system active minorities possess means of arbitrarily governing the mass of those colleagues who place the liberal character of the profession in the first rank of its attributes.

As regards transitory measures the distinction made between the juries, that would choose the candidates to the title of architect and the Regional Committees, charged with the work of professional administration, involves as a corollary the exclusive jurisdiction of the former over the admission of colleagues to the Order. While explicitly recognising this function of wholly or partly *official* bodies, the architects, whose opinions we here reproduce, are careful to emphasise the need for a clear understanding as to the just recognition of vested interests and the respect rightfully due to "the legitimate situations created under the present regime of absolute liberty." The juries should therefore have as an obligation "the exercise of all the liberalism compatible with the moral and technical exigencies" that any aspirant to the definite title of Architect must necessarily anticipate.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LATEST PROJECT.

In conformity with the above considerations the "Société Professionnelle d'Architectes français," while adhering to the principal provisions of the Government Architects' association, offer a project of their own which substitutes "regionalism" for "centralisation," in the direction and control of the Order of Architects.

The scheme previously published proposed to establish (1) Regional Councils composed of members, five years on the Roll and empowered to *admit* all eligible certificated architects but only to *recommend* the admission of Architects lacking diplomas; (2) A Superior Council composed of a considerable number of official architects (Inspectors of Historical Monuments, Professors of the National Fine Arts School, etc.), together with two representatives of each Regional Council and ten Paris architects. The President of the latter would be *the* President of the Order of Architects. The "Société Professionnelle" would institute organisations uniquely regional, the Presidents of which would have the title and (within local limits) the powers bestowed by the rival project on the President of the Superior Council. Appeals from disciplinary Regional decisions, instead of being adjudicated upon by a Supreme Council, as intended by the Government Architects, would come, like any ordinary process, before the local Court of Appeal. There is no machinery whatsoever for central control. The only provision made for co-ordinating the work of the several Orders is an optional annual meeting of their Presidents whose decisions would be transmitted to the regions concerned as purely consultative conclusions.

RECIPROCITY FOR FOREIGNERS.

A notable clause, of interest from the outsider's standpoint, terminates this particular project. This is "article 19" which stipulates that foreign architects belonging to a nation according reciprocal advantages to Frenchmen, and entered on a list drawn up by the Minister of Public Instruction and Fine Arts, will enjoy all the advantages of the proposed Decree under exactly the same conditions as French architects.

However opinions may differ in France as to the expediency of so completely localising the Government of the Order, the desire to realise as rapidly as possible *some* measure that will effectively arm the architect against the invasion of incompetents and "irregulars" is a powerful deterrent to dissension. Many no doubt are convinced that a Corporation with a hydra-headed Order and no permanent central organ of *liaison* would not possess the prestige and the power indispensable to an unswerving, uniform disciplinary action extending to the totality of the territory. It can hardly be denied also that the respect which a profession internationally enjoys is normally heightened by the presence of an *élite* in higher organisms charged with a jealous watch and ward over its moral patrimony and reputation. It is not impossible to ensure an adequate autonomy guaranteeing full franchise for regional administrative activities, while not abandoning the complimentary collective council which in all solid professional organisations has proved itself to be the best, if not the only, real precaution against chaos. Such an "upper house," even if only advisory, is a valuable focus of ideas and a rallying point for all reactions against exterior aggression—against violations of rights and privileges that no provincial action can successfully combat. All these arguments are likely to be carefully weighed in France before any of the competing projects are definitely embodied in a Parliamentary bill.

W. W. O'MAHONY.

SURREY.—The County Council are making inquiries regarding the provision of accommodation for mental defectives. The medical officer suggests a colony providing accommodation for not less than 500 cases, though he states that an institution for 700 would prove more economical in working.—The Standing Joint Committee gave given instructions for the erection of police cottages at Bletchingley, Chelsham, Effingham, Limpsfield, and Tatsfield. Negotiations are proceeding for further sites for cottages at Sutton, Chobham, Elstead, West Horley and Windlesham.

The Canadian Building, Cockspur St., S.W.1.

The original building, for many years the home of the Union Club, was designed in 1820 by Sir Robert Smirke. It was added to by Sir J. McVicar Anderson, some 30 years ago, and at the beginning of this century, Sir Arthur Blomfield made many interior changes. In the reconstruction of the building to house departments of the Canadian Government, distributed at present over London at points as far apart as Basinghall Street, in the City, and Oxford and Regent Streets, in the West, the architect, Mr. Septimus Warwick, F.R.I.B.A., found it necessary to construct at the back of the building an entirely new wing six storeys high, and entirely to remodel the rest of the work. The ground floor is now open throughout, with space allocated as visitors' reading and writing rooms, enquiry offices for the various departments, and for other purposes. The staircase existing when the building was taken over has been retained, but new panelling has been added to the walls in keeping with the rooms that now open upon it. A new passenger lift has been provided, giving access to both the old and the new portions. The entrance has been removed to the Cockspur Street frontage, giving a vista of over 100 feet in the interior. The Cockspur Street front, with its portico supported by four Ionic columns, is entirely new. A feature has been made of the bronze entrance doors, into which has been introduced as a motif in the design the Canadian emblem of the Maple Leaf. The Trafalgar Square front has been refaced with stone to match the Royal College of Physicians adjoining, so that the whole side of the Square becomes now one distinctive facade, harmonious both in design and in material. Canadian maple and birch flooring has been used in the upper floors, with British Columbia fir doors; the flagstaff over the main entrance also came from British Columbia. The whole of the office furniture and the carpets have been made in Canada. The valves for the heating apparatus have been supplied from Montreal and Toronto. Following is a list of firms who have participated in the reconstruction:—General contractors: Messrs. Trollope & Colls, Ltd., 5 Coleman Street, E.C.3. Steelwork contractors: Aston Construction Co., Ltd., Eagle Wharf, New North Road, N.1. Hollow floors: Diespeker & Co., Ltd., Holborn Viaduct, E.C.1. Marble: Fenning & Co., Ltd., Palace Wharf, Hammersmith, W. Lifts: Waygood Otis, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C. Stone carving: H. H. Martyn & Co., Ltd., Cheltenham. Bronze doors, etc.: Bromsgrove Guild of Applied Arts, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. Birch and maple flooring: The Seaman Kent Co., Toronto. Furniture: The Office Speciality Co., Ottawa. Carpets: The Toronto Carpet Co., Toronto.

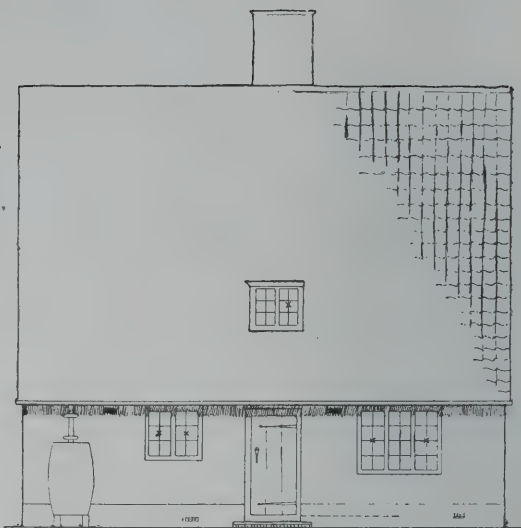
Sale Bargains.

A sale has been held at Carlisle to dispose of various buildings at Gretna, and some remarkably low prices have been paid. Semi detached houses containing three bedrooms and a bathroom have been sold for £130 each, which probably represents at most one-sixth or one-seventh of their cost. There were no offers for the factory buildings, Border Hall or Police Station, but offers of £300 for a laundry establishment and £400 for a cinema theatre were refused. Larger houses on the main Glasgow Road fetched £300. The cordite factory at Gretna is said to have cost £9,000,000. While Gretna was a war necessity and a great deal of the expense incurred was unavoidable, it does seem to be a pity, seeing that it is unlikely to remain a commercial centre, that the buildings erected were of quite so permanent a character in view of their cost, for Gretna was as well conceived and carried out as Letchworth or Welwyn, and reflected great credit on its designers.

BLACKWATER.—Hampshire County Council have voted £51,000 for the construction of a bridge and highway over the railway at Blackwater subject to contributions of £5,000 from the Southern Railway Co. and £3,431 from the county authorities of Berkshire and Surrey.



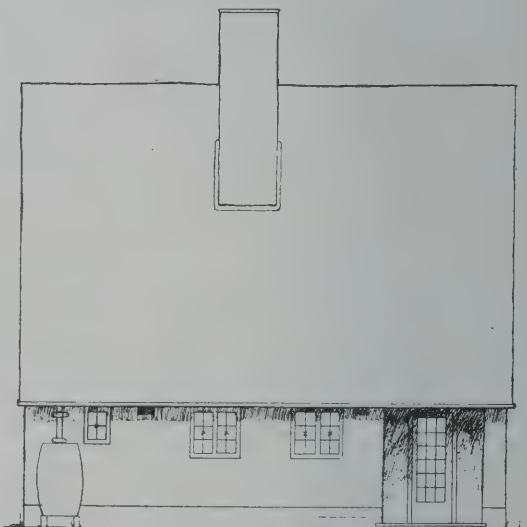
SOUTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION

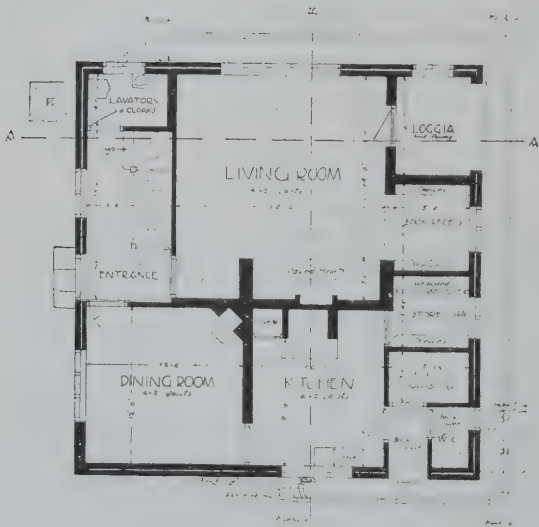


NORTH ELEVATION

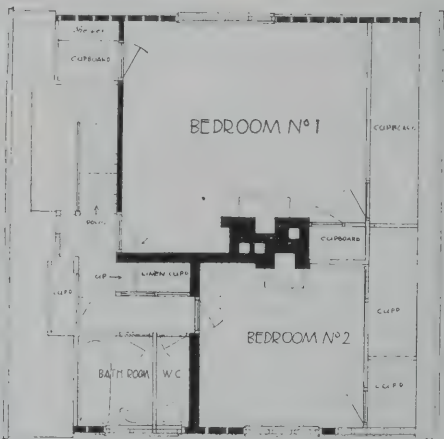


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The irreducible minimum. Cottage designed for a maiden lady and her maid, with pantiled roof and tarred weather-boarded gables, the upper storeys being in the roof. Estimated cost about £800 or less.

Middlesex Hospital and Dry Rot

The attention of Architects is drawn to the heavy loss resulting from the dry rot fungus having destroyed the beams and flooring of this famous building.

It is impossible to overestimate the danger of dry rot as so many buildings recently have succumbed to its insidious progress, but consideration should be given to the infinitesimal cost of protecting buildings completely against dry rot attack if the woodwork is treated with Solignum during erection, when the hidden beams, under floor boards, roof timbers, &c., can be easily reached.

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General News.

BISHOPSTOKE.—Hampshire County Council have authorised a further expenditure of £12,000 on adapting and furnishing the Mount sanatorium at Bishopstoke.

BLACKHALL.—The Board of Education have approved plans of the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Blackhall Colliery.

BLACKHALL.—Steps are being taken by the Durham County Education Committee to expedite the erection of a school for 800 children at Blackhall, plans for which have now been approved by the Board of Education.

BOLTON.—The Education Committee have decided to provide accommodation for 80 boarders and 80 day scholars at the proposed Lostock open-air school.—The Ministry of Health have held an inquiry into the scheme for the extension of the Hacken sewage works, to cost £132,294.—A site in Plodder Lane is to be acquired for the erection of a booster pumping station.—The borough engineer has been requested to prepare detailed plans for extensions at the fire station.—In connection with the scheme of town hall extensions and the erection of other public buildings, it has been decided to inform the Ministry of Health that labour will not be diverted from housing schemes, and Messrs. Bradshaw Gass & Hope, the architects, have accordingly been instructed to prepare the necessary estimates of cost, etc.—Plans passed: Alterations, Ram's Head Hotel, Derby Street, for Messrs. Magee Marshal & Co., Ltd.; 6 houses off Green Lane, for Mr. Thomas Blakley; 12 houses, Montrose Avenue, for Messrs. Leigh Bros., Ltd.; 12 houses, Devonshire Road; 6 in Lever Edge Lane; 8 in Higher Swan Lane; 22 off Lever Edge Lane, and 32 houses, Forton Avenue, for Messrs. William Gornall & Sons, Ltd.; mixing room, Undershore Bleachworks, for Messrs. Knowles & Green, Ltd.; 9 houses, Fairmount Avenue, for Mr. A. Coward; vestry, Crown Street, for Bank Street Unitarian Chapel trustees; boiler house, Garside Street, for Messrs. Rigby, Taylor, Ltd.; Sunday school, Wigan Road, for Congregational Church Trustees; lay-out of Rishton Avenue and Boscobel Road, for Earl of Bradford; pavilion, Wordsworth Street, for Messrs. W. Edge & Sons, Ltd.; 15 houses, Ivy Road for Mr. N. O. Halliwell.

BRADBURY.—Cheshire Education Committee are to spend £4,470 on alterations at the Bradbury central school.

BRANDON.—Plans are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for an elementary school at Brandon Colliery.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—The borough engineer has been authorised to invite tenders for as many houses as can be erected on the Wellington Street site.—Eight houses are to be erected on the Saxon Street site.

CHATTERIS.—Isle of Ely Standing Joint Committee are negotiating for land for the erection of police houses at Wenny Road, Chatteris.

EASTBOURNE.—Plans passed: 6 garages, Windermere Crescent, Mr. A. Ford, architect for Eastbourne Artizans' Dwellings Co.; additions, Park Gates Hotel, Compton Street, for Mr. S. G. Scales, architect for Mr. Thompson; extension to workroom, Bakers Road, for Mr. P. D. Stoneham, for Eastbourne Dry Cleaning Co.; 4 cottages, Park Avenue, for Mr. W. R. Hamblyn, architect.

EPPLETON.—Durham County Education Committee have submitted to the Board of Education preliminary plans for an elementary school at Eppleton Colliery.

ERSOM.—The Board of Education have approved of the plans of the Surrey Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school for girls. Accommodation is to be provided for 305 pupils and the cost will be £36,472.

EUXIMOOR.—Isle of Ely Education Committee have decided to proceed with a scheme for a new school for the districts of Christchurch and Euximoor.

FOLESHILL.—Warwick County Education Committee have decided that the proposed elementary school at Foleshill shall be for 400 instead of for 250 children, as originally proposed.

GUILDFORD.—Surrey Education Committee are consulting with the governors of the Guildford Grammar School regarding an enlargement so as to provide for a complete school of 400 boys and an alternative scheme for the erection of eight class rooms, etc.

HAVERTON HILL.—Approval has been given by the Board of Education to the plans of the Durham County Education Committee for the extension of the elementary school at Haverton H. I.

HEADLEY.—Hampshire Education Committee are to enlarge the Headley Bordon elementary school at a cost of £3,500.

HEADLINGTON.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the proposals of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to provide a tuberculosis sanatorium on the site of Manor House, Headlington.

HIGHFIELD.—Plans have been prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for the extension of the elementary school at Highfield.

HILLMORTON.—A site for a new elementary school at Hillmorton has been acquired by the Warwick County Education Committee.

KENSINGTON.—The London Education Committee have acquired a site in the Golbourne Ward for the erection of an elementary school.

KENSINGTON.—The Borough Council have adopted a revised plan providing for the erection of 38 flats on the Virginia Place site and tenders are now to be invited for the scheme.—A store is to be erected at the baths at a cost of about £300.—In connection with the adaptation of land at Gunnersbury acquired for a new cemetery, sketch-plans for the lay-out have been obtained from Messrs. L. Rome Guthrie, A. B. Knapp-Fisher and George O. Scorer, all Fellows of the R.I.B.A. These are to be considered so that the Council may come to a decision after the summer recess.

KINGSTON.—The governors of the Kingston Grammar School have decided upon an extension scheme which will cost £14,000.

LAMPETER.—Cardigan Education Committee are to erect a new wing at the Bryn Road central school, Lampeter, at a cost of £2,191.

LANCASTER.—The Corporation have decided to erect a further 26 houses on the Bulk estate.—A scheme for extensions at the gasworks have been approved, the cost being estimated at £54,100.—The provision of new filtration plant is recommended subject to a grant from the Unemployment Grants Committee.

LONDON, TEMPLE, E.C.—Decorations and repairs to various suites for Treasurer of Middle Temple, Ferguson & Frawley, Hart Street, W.C.. £309.

MARSDEN.—Preliminary plans for an elementary school at Marsden are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—The borough architect has been instructed to prepare draft schemes for submission to the Ministry of Health for dealing with unhealthy areas and erecting 90 houses at Dowlais to replace houses demolished, and 50 elsewhere.—The borough architect has now prepared final plans for the workshops for the blind in Swan Street, the estimated cost being £5,900.

NETTLESWORTH.—A site at Nettlesworth has been acquired by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school, plans for which are now being prepared.

NEW FERRY.—Cheshire County Education Committee are purchasing a site at New Ferry for the erection of a school.

NEWFIELD.—Durham County Education Committee have prepared plans for an elementary school to be erected on a site just secured at Newfield.

NORTHWICH.—The Rural Hospital Committee have acquired land for the erection of a tuberculosis pavilion.

OLDHAM.—The Corporation are urging the Ministry of Health to sanction a relaxation of the density conditions in order to encourage the development of building in partly developed streets. Messrs. Joseph Stott & Son have been appointed architects for the technical school extension.—Plans passed: Continuation of Hollin Hall Street and Clarksfield Road, for Hollin Hall Estate, bridge over street, Ironmonger Lane, for Messrs. F. and G. Pollard; warehouse extension, Shaw Road, for Mr. A. Pennington; boiler house reconstruction, Henley Street, for Werneth Spinning Co., Ltd.; new children's hospital, Westhulme, for Corporation; 9 houses, Taurus Street, for Mr. T. C. Lees; extensions, Old Red Lion Hotel, Bottom o' th' Moor, for Wilson's Brewery, Ltd.; extensions, Sportsman's Arms, Chadderton Road, for Wilson's Brewery, Ltd.; extensions, Duke of York Inn, Manchester Street, for Messrs. J. W. Lees & Co.; extensions, Clarence Inn, Wellington Street, for Rochdale & Manor Brewery, Ltd.; extensions, Antelope Inn, King Street, for Oldham Brewery Co., Ltd.

OXFORD.—Sanction is to be sought for a loan of £3,300 for the provision of improved accommodation for dental and other clinics and additional accommodation for the teaching of handicraft subjects.—Plans passed: Addition to male wing, The Warneford, for the governors; workshops, Leopold Street, for Mr. R. Moss; factory extension, Cherwell Street, for Mr. N. E. E. Minty; engine house, Woodstock Road, for Osberton Radiator Co., Ltd.; additions and alterations, 4 and 5 High Street, for Messrs. J. Sainsbury, Ltd.

PELTON.—Durham County Education Committee are inquiring for a site at Pelton for the erection of an elementary school.

PONYTON.—The Parochial Church Council are acquiring a site at Ponyton (Cheshire) for the erection of a parish church hall.

THE TRUSCON FLOOR



THE NEW FACTORY FOR THE ARDATH TOBACCO CO., OLD STREET, E.C.

Architect: F. J. WILLS

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REIGATE.—The Board of Education have approved the plans of the Surrey Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school for girls at Reigate.

RICHMOND.—The Richmond county school for boys is to be enlarged by the adaptation of the premises "Thornwood" for school purposes, plans, prepared by the Surrey Education Committee, having been approved by the Board of Education.

RYTON.—Preliminary plans for a new elementary school at Ryton are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

SACRISTAN.—Further consideration is being given by the Durham County Education Committee to plans for extensions at the Sacristan elementary school.

SALFORD.—Salford Corporation Housing Committee recommend the tender of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Manchester, amounting approximately to £60,296, for the erection of the Littleton Road estate of 96 A type houses at £456 16s. 8d. per house and 30 B type at £548 per house.

SHEFFIELD.—The Corporation have voted £157,475 in connection with a housing scheme on the Wybourn estate, it being reported that the land will provide for 340 houses.—The Education Committee have decided to purchase Ivy Lodge, Pitsmoor, for use as a combined domestic subjects centre and a residential hostel.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Blair Athol Road, for Messrs. W. Malthouse, Ltd.; 6 houses off Whirlowdale Road, for Mr. T. H. Bailey; 6 houses, Garry Road, for Mr. M. Simpson; 4 bungalows, Derbyshire Lane, for Mr. T. Leadbeater; 4 houses, Havercroft Road, for Mr. E. Cooper; 3 houses, 6 lock-up shops, show-room and 3 garages, Ecclelland Road South, for Mr. W. Ramsay; 6 houses, Abbeydale Road South, for Messrs. Charlton & Linley; 4 houses, Knowle Lane, for Georginia Burrell almshouse trustees; 6 houses, Carlton Road, for Mr. B. F. Glossop; 6 houses, Dobcroft Road, for Messrs. Smith & Hawley; 6 houses, Parkhead Crescent for Mr. A. J. Belton; 16 houses, Havercroft Road, for Mr. Jos. Enock; 15 houses and garages, Ecclelland Road, for Mr. A. J. Belton; 8 houses and garages, Bents Road, for Mr. J. A. Wragg.

SHREWSBURY.—A scheme has been prepared for the development of the racecourse estate, providing sites for the erection of 204 houses by the Corporation and for the erection of 57 houses by private enterprise for a school, for tennis courts and for playing fields.—Messrs. Shayler & Drake propose to develop the Westfield estate.

SOLIHULL.—The Solihull United Charities have prepared a scheme for new buildings at the Solihull Shirley Church of England School.

STOCKBRIDGE.—The elementary school at Stockbridge is to be improved and enlarged by the Hampshire Education Committee at a cost of £3,250.

SUTTON COLDFIELD.—Compulsory orders have been made by the Warwick County Education Committee for the acquisition of a site for the Sutton Coldfield high school.

THORNEY.—Isle of Ely County Education Committee have acquired land for the extension of the boys' council school at Thorney.

TORQUAY.—Mrs. Rowcraft has given the Corporation £100,000 to cover the cost of erecting the New Torbay Hospital.—The borough engineer has been authorised to prepare a scheme for blocks of houses for families displaced by the Pimlico improvement scheme.—A site near Lawes Bridge is suggested for the erection of a neat inspection depot.—H.M. Office of Works are seeking a site for the erection of a telephone repeater station.—Another 200 housing subsidies are to be granted.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Rowley Road, for Mr. J. Sture; 9 houses off Clennon Road, for Mr. J. H. Tucker; 8 houses, Reeves Road, for Chelston Building Co.; 24 houses, Daison estate, for Messrs. Thos. Vanstone & Sons; 15 houses, Daison estate, for Mr. William Rowe; 24 houses, Daison estate, for Mr. John Lloyd; 5 houses, Reeves Road, for Messrs. Cavanna Bros; 104 houses at Barton, for Messrs. Ball & Wilkinson, Ltd.; extension, Rosehill Hospital, Lower Warberry Road, for Trustees.

WESTMINSTER.—Messrs. Ashley & Newman, architects, have prepared plans for the erection of a six-storey building, comprising 78 flats, and an extension of Jessel House by five flats, for the Easher Street housing scheme of the City Council.—The Congregational Chapel trustees have agreed to sell the site in Orange Street to the City Council for the erection of the new St. Martin's library.—The L.C.C. have agreed to a scheme of Mr. Gordon Reeves for the formation of a new street to be called Regent Arcade in connection with the erection of a building at 252-262 Regent Street, 22-25 Argyll Street, and Little Argyll Street. The arcade will lead from Regent Street to Argyll Street.—Mr. F. J. Wills proposes to construct a subway under and a bridge over Exeter Street connecting the Strand Palace Hotel with premises on the north side of Exeter Street.

Building Progress in London.

Mr. Gilbert Booth is the architect of an attractive block of flats in Church Street, Chelsea. The block, known as Carlyle House, is four storeys in height. The general contractors were Thomas and Edge. "Stimex" ranges are installed throughout. Messrs. G. A. Harvey & Co.'s "Harco" galvanised tanks are also in general use. The façade is in rustic red brickwork over a blue brick plinth, and a quaint effect of design is introduced, well in consonance with the older work in Chelsea; inside an Adamesque scheme of design is used for the chimney pieces.

Fanum House, Coventry Street, Haymarket, is in course of extension and will contain the headquarters of the Automobile Association. The architect is Andrew Mather, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.1; Arthur Vigor, Ltd., are the general contractors; Smith, Walker are supplying the constructional steelwork; Thomas Faldo, the asphalt; the Bath and Portland Stone Firms, Ltd., the Portland stone; Allensor, Ltd., the joinery; Mann, Egerton & Co., Ltd., the electrical installation; and the Synchronome Co., Ltd., the electric clocks.

The Prince of Wales Hospital, High Road, Tottenham, was originally built from the designs of Messrs. Rowland Plumbe & Frank Harvey; in 1884 it was greatly enlarged and in 1923 two storeys were added to the central block; it has recently had a further enlargement (from the designs of Mr. C. E. Blackburn), consisting of a 14-bed 1st floor wing addition. H. Knight & Son are the general contractors, as they were for the 1923 work.

Extensive works in alterations and repairs were recently executed at the Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue in Brook Green, with Mr. H. W. Ford as the architect. Ferris Brothers were the general contractors; F. Geere Howard, Ltd., the electrical engineers; D. Assersohn was responsible for the electrical fittings; Doulton's for sanitary fittings; George Hammer & Co., Ltd., for the alterations to pews; Diespeker & Co., Ltd., the courtyard and vestibule pavings; G. Hawkings, decorative joinery and marble tablets; and F. G. Christmas, stained and leaded glass windows.

The community of the Eleventh Church of Christ, Scientist, is erecting buildings in Shouldham Street, near Edgware Road. Mr. Oswald P. Milne, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect; Dove Brothers general contractors; and Aston Construction Co., Ltd., structural steelwork. Mottled bricks are being used for facing.

Another building, where mottled and red bricks are being used for facing is the large block at the junction of Seymour Place and Crawford Street, for the Metropolitan Police (Married Quarters); this is from the designs of the police architect; A. E. Symes is the contractor. It is likely to be about a twelvemonth before the work is completed.

Mr. Delissa Joseph, F.R.I.B.A., was architect for new buildings recently erected in Langham Place, adjoining St. George's Hall; Edcaster, Ltd., were the general contractors; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., supplied the structural steelwork; and the lifts are those of the Titan Lifts Co.

Mr. H. W. Parnacott, A.R.I.B.A., is the architect of new buildings on the site of Nos. 62-68 Vauxhall Bridge Road; Holliday & Greenwood, contractors; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., for constructional steelwork; and Ragusa Asphalte Co., for asphalt.

An important scheme of ninety flats is now in hand for the Second Hampstead Garden Tenants at Hampstead Way, Golders Green. Mr. J. B. F. Cowper, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect; Casrubil, Ltd., contractors; S. and L. B. Co. for red bricks; and the National Heating Co., Ltd., for heating installations. "Heathercroft" was entrusted to Mr. Cowper as the result of competition. As an instance of garden suburb lay-out, this group will prove sufficiently effective.

The Kensington Society of the New Church is erecting new premises in Westbourne Grove from the design of Messrs. Lewis Solomon & Son. The general contractors are Bovis, Ltd. The Cement Marketing Co. are supplying their "Blue Circle" cement; Caxton Fire-Resisting R.C. Hollow floors are being introduced; and O.S.T.A. red bricks are being used for facings.

The disciples of the late Mrs. Mary Eddy are busy in London, where two Christian Science churches are in process of construction in Kensington, one of these being in Palace Gardens Terrace, and the other in Wright's Lane. The latter is the Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist, and is from the design of Mr. Paul Phipps, F.R.I.B.A., and E. H. Burgess is the contractor; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., are supplying the constructional steelwork; and the Fletton bricks in use are those known as "Phorpres" supplied by the London Brick Co. & Forders, Ltd. Higgs & Hill, Ltd., are building the other church referred to.

CONTENTS.

The Ideal Architect	PAGE 123	America's National Architecture	132
Bristol University New Buildings	127	Beauty in Architecture	134
Picturesque Corners of Savoy	129	A Russian Building Competition	135
French Building-Crisis	131	Real "Castles in the Air"	138

The Ideal Architect.

It is difficult to define ideals in a few words, but probably the best definition of the ideal architect would be a negative one, as "the architect whom no client had regretted employing." It would hardly be safe to assume that the architect's work should always give the client pleasure, for many build not for purposes of gratification or love for the results, but because they are compelled to. Such clients may consider that their interests have been protected and met by the architect, but that is the most that is possible. Again, a client may build a house and be perfectly satisfied with the result, *qua* result, but may at the same time feel that he has made the mistake of building too ambitiously or even building at all, and one of the architect's greatest difficulties is that he is a part of the machinery by which building operations—which always mean relatively large expenditure—are carried out. It is this fact which causes most of the difficulties of the average architect and which renders it very necessary for him to be circumspect and careful in his dealings with clients.

The negative definition we have suggested covers this as nearly as it can be covered, for if no client ever regrets employing a certain architect it may be taken that he has earned a reputation for careful oversight of the expenditure of money. The suggestion which is sometimes made, that because the architect is paid on the basis of a percentage on cost he is likely to be inclined to look with tolerance on increases of cost, is perhaps one which should not surprise us, but in the vast majority of cases has absolutely no justification in fact, for two practical reasons apart from any moral considerations. The first is that the greater proportion of commissions which come to any architect only lead to actual work if the architect can show a way in which the client's requirements can be diminished. Most men are more easily persuaded to reduce their requirements than to exceed the capital outlay they have contemplated. The second reason is that while architects are frequently accused of "running up extras," all but an insignificant number have a greater objection to extras than the client himself. We believe many architects working for clients who had carefully considered their wants and had them embodied in suitable drawings and contracts would be perfectly ready to forego their right to charge on so called "extras."

But as a profession we can never be protected against the disappointment felt by those who embark on building operations with enthusiasm and afterwards regret their enterprise. We suffer in such cases because, to use a simile, there has been a depreciation in the value of the architectural currency.

One of the most difficult of tasks is to satisfy the client who has great difficulty in understanding and following the meaning of drawings and, failing the somewhat costly and difficult task of making models to show our schemes, there is no better way than by explaining them by means of reference

to somewhat similar buildings, but unless something of the kind can be done the client will in a great number of cases be disappointed with his architect's work.

Buildings erected for purely financial reasons are in a way the easiest to deal with. If the architect has based his scheme on the right data and can show that the resulting building brings in the rentals expected his work will give his client satisfaction whatever its æsthetic qualities may be, and he has secured the best means to further lucrative employment.

In the rapidly changing conditions of modern life it is wise to remember that even the house which a client builds for his own pleasure and comfort may before many years find its way into the category of property to be sold. For this reason it is well to warn a client when he proposes to spend money on what will bring him personal pleasure, but which has no market value, for here again many men will blame an architect who a few years previously has given them exactly what they asked him for. The work we do also is frequently given a changed value arising out of the development of a district which is often difficult to forecast.

Not the least value of the compulsory application of the Housing and Town Planning Act to the whole country is that it would not only protect the owner of property but the architect who has built for him, for the production of even an acknowledged masterpiece of design is in popular estimation discounted by the fact that it can afterwards be bought at an immense discount.

Because he has to face and meet many of the difficulties enumerated the ideal architect will require the possession of much tact as well as æsthetic imagination. He has to play on a very sensitive instrument, human nature, and we are inclined to think that the old Eastern saying, "Oh that my enemy had written a book," might be still more strongly put, "Oh that my enemy were an architect and had designed a house." The architect's work may, and probably will, stand for centuries, and during his lifetime its changing value or use may prejudicially affect his reputation.

The greatest of all safeguards is when the architect acts for a client who identifies himself with his work and claims that all his architect has done is to carry out his instructions! The architect need not in such cases be afraid that the client's friends will take the assertions made literally, while he is automatically protected from carping criticisms.

We should define the architect whose work has to satisfy conditions of building finance as being in the most secure position, the architect who carries out public buildings as having the freest hand, while he whose practice is of a domestic nature will have to tread most warily if he is to merit the title of an "Ideal Architect."

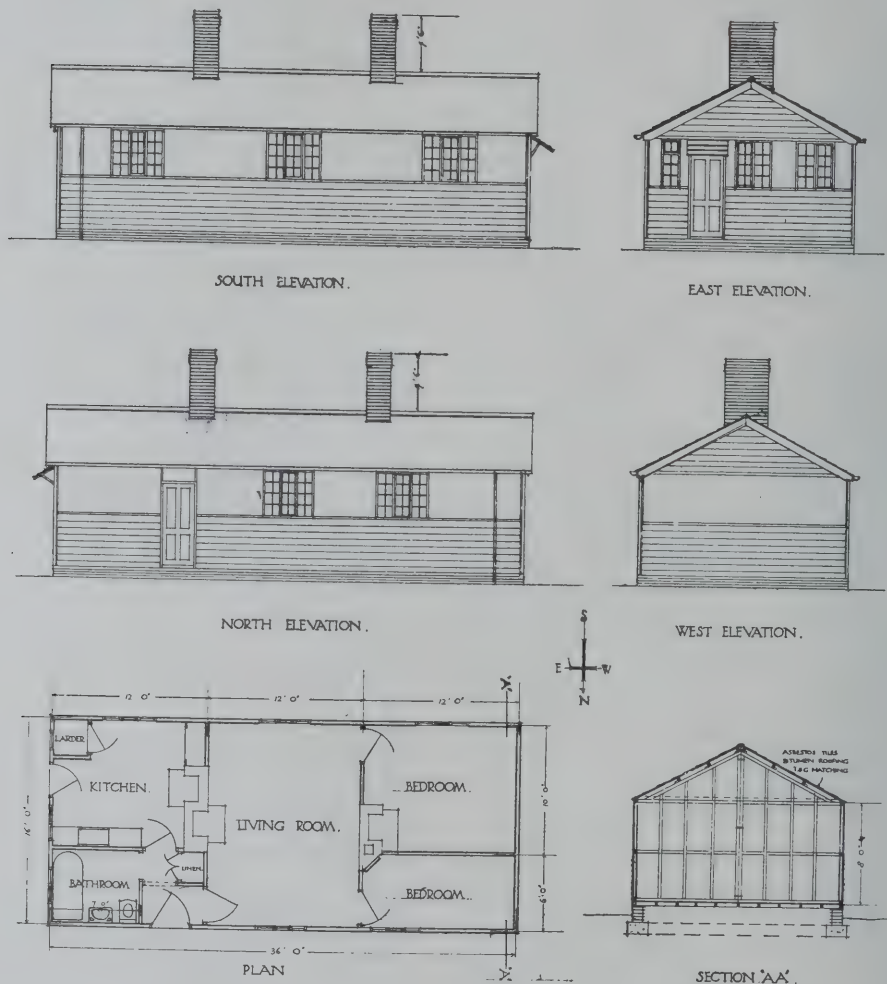
Our Illustrations.

SCENA FROM A PENCIL DRAWING. ... By WM. CURTIS GREEN, A.R.A.

DESIGN FOR MEMORIAL TO THE MISSING: THE MENIN GATE, YPRES.

WORKING DRAWINGS. SIR REGINALD BLOOMFIELD, R.A., Architect.

BUNGALOW AT CHILWORTH.
SCALE — FOUR FEET TO ONE INCH.



BUNGALOW AT CHILWORTH, COSTING £200. BRIAN POULTER, Architect.

This is a very useful reminder of what is possible by the employment of rigid economy. The bungalow is one which might serve as a model to those desiring a very economical and convenient house.

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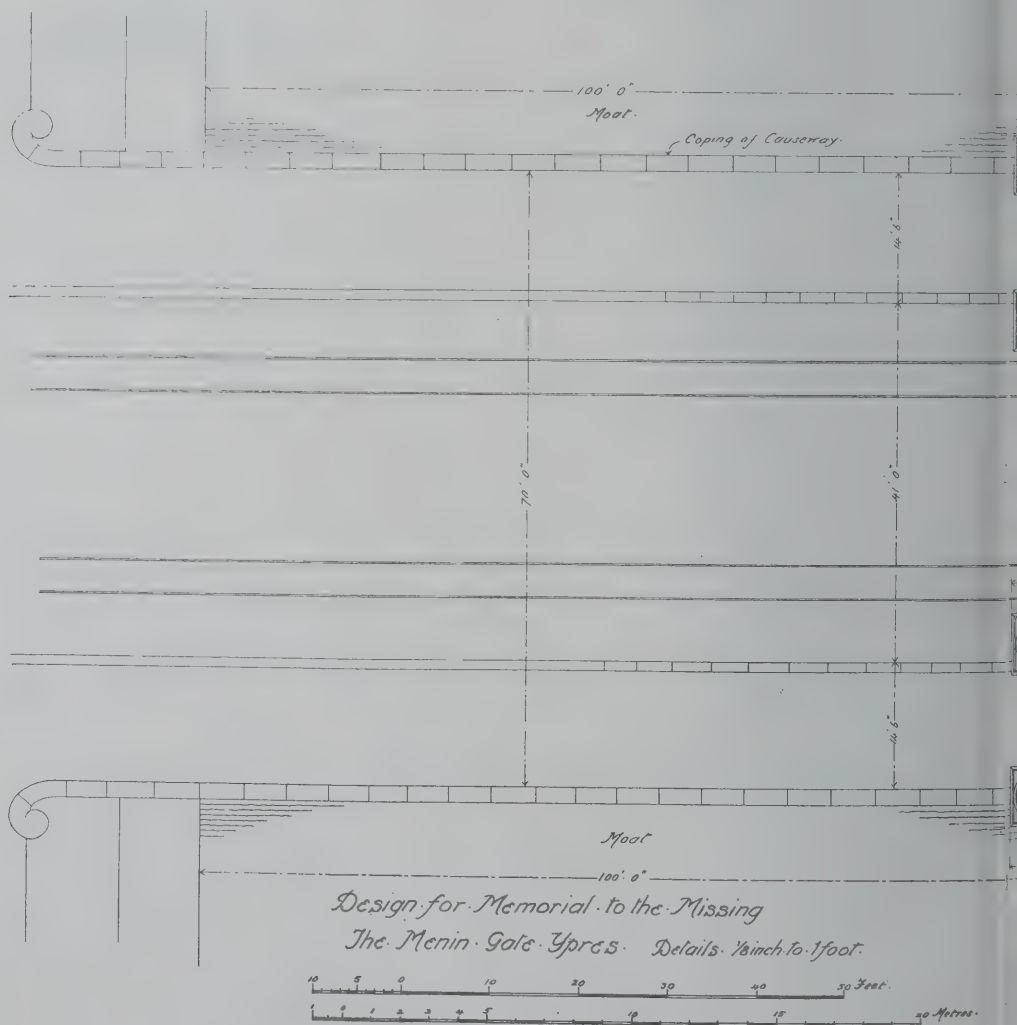
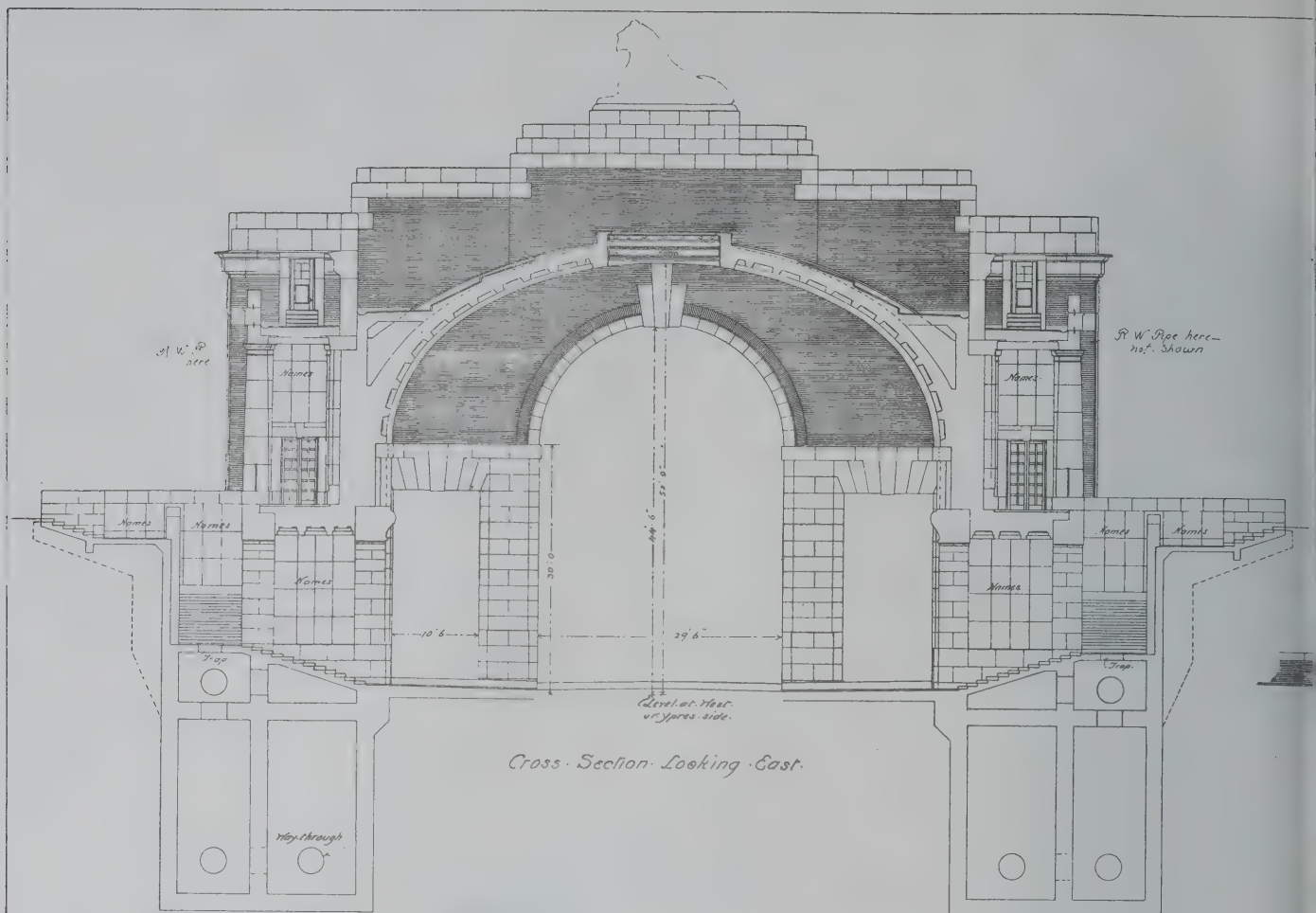
SIENA

W. Curtis Green

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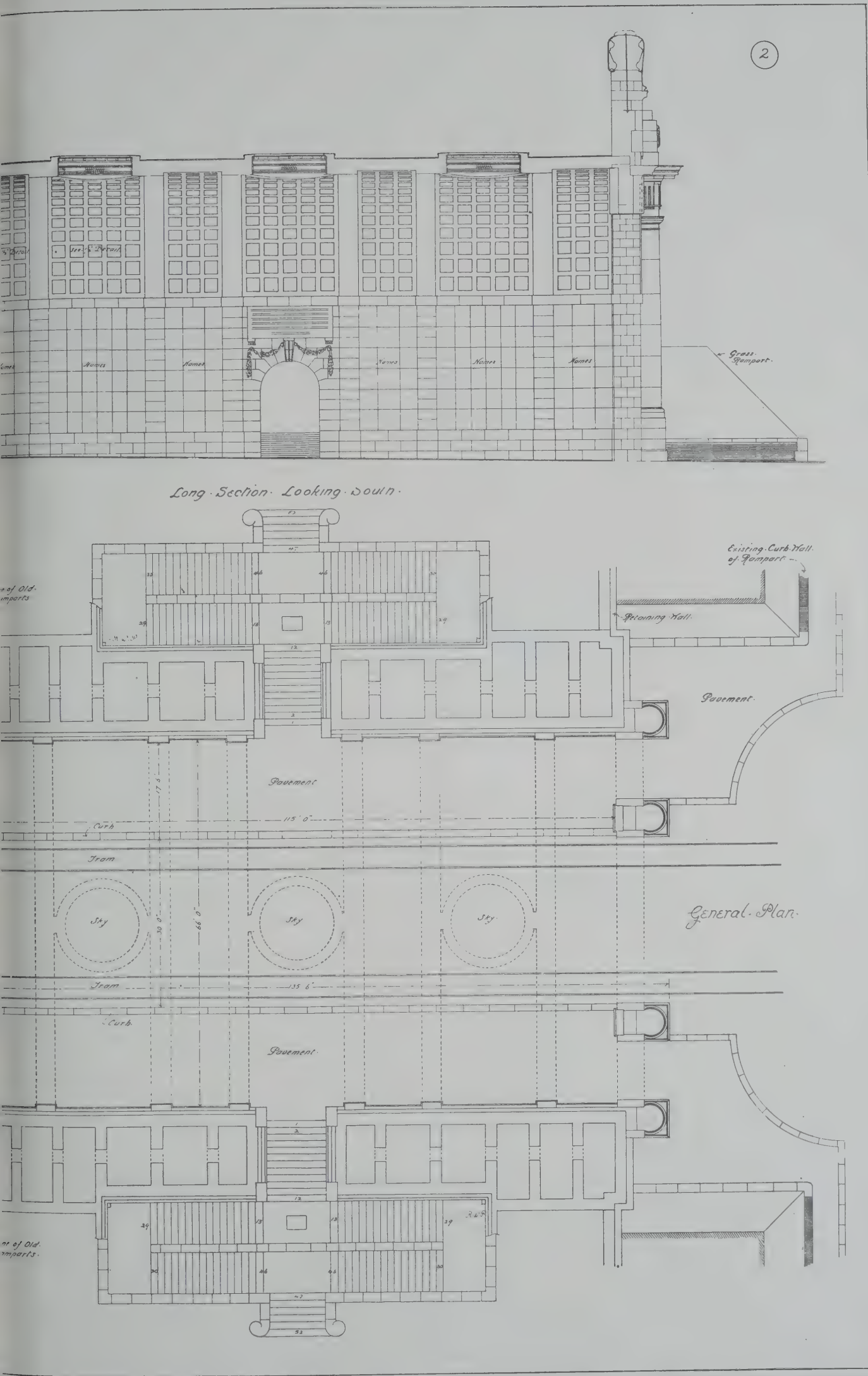
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Reginald. Blomfield. R. N. Architect
Sept. = 1912 New Court Temple London. E.C.

Sept- 1922

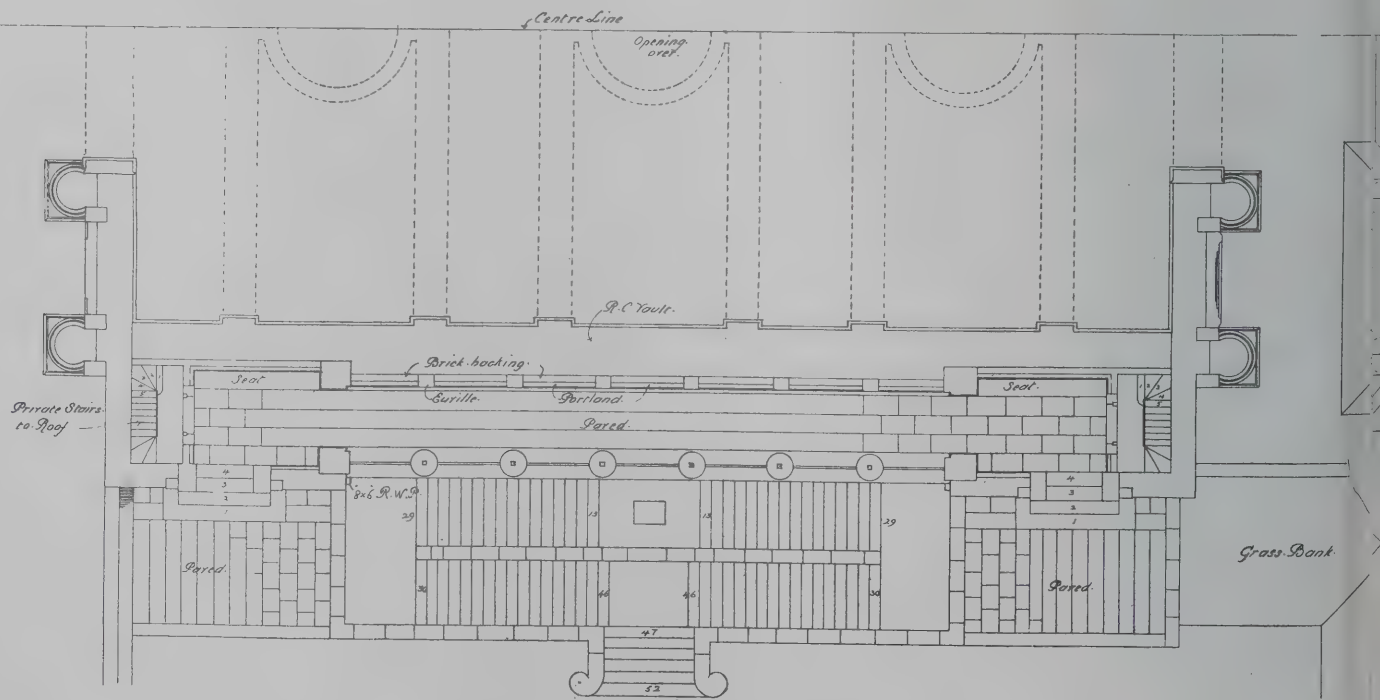
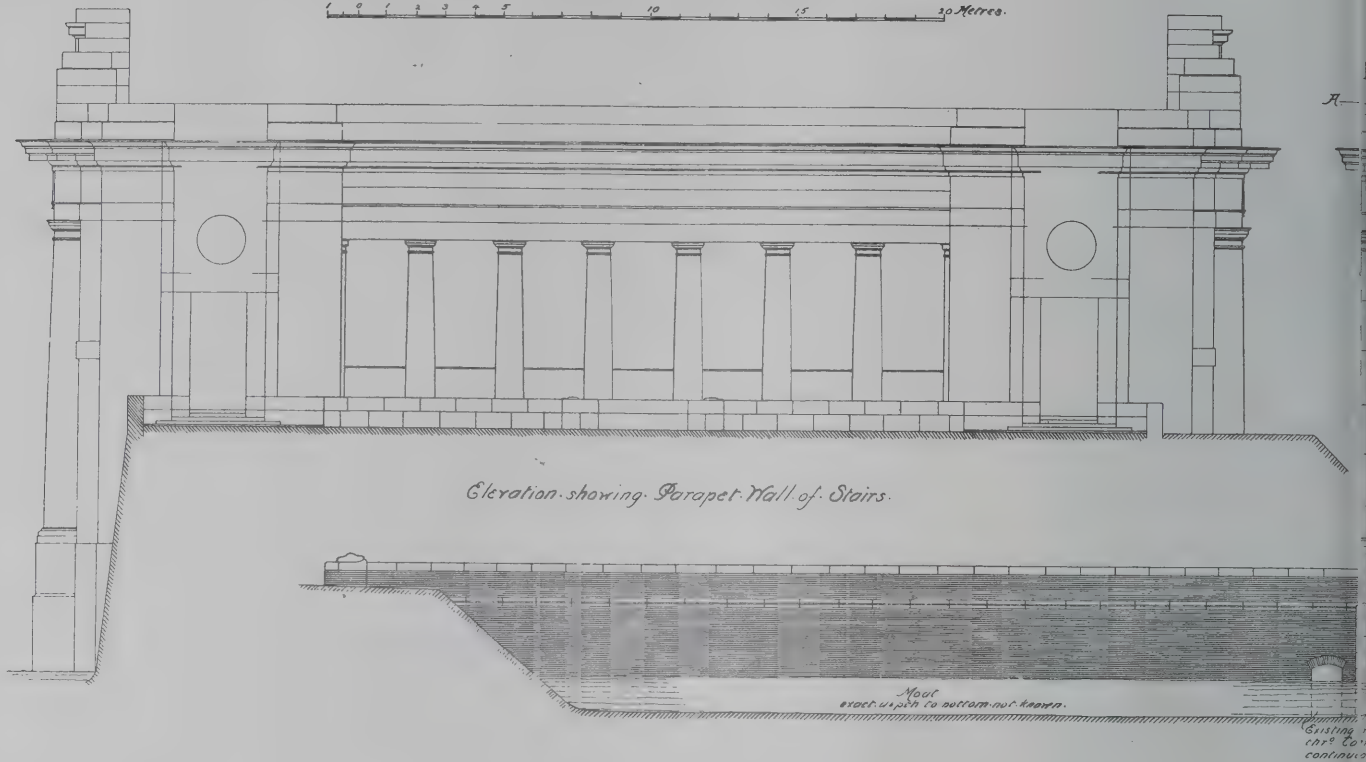
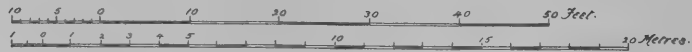
New Court Temple London. S.C.



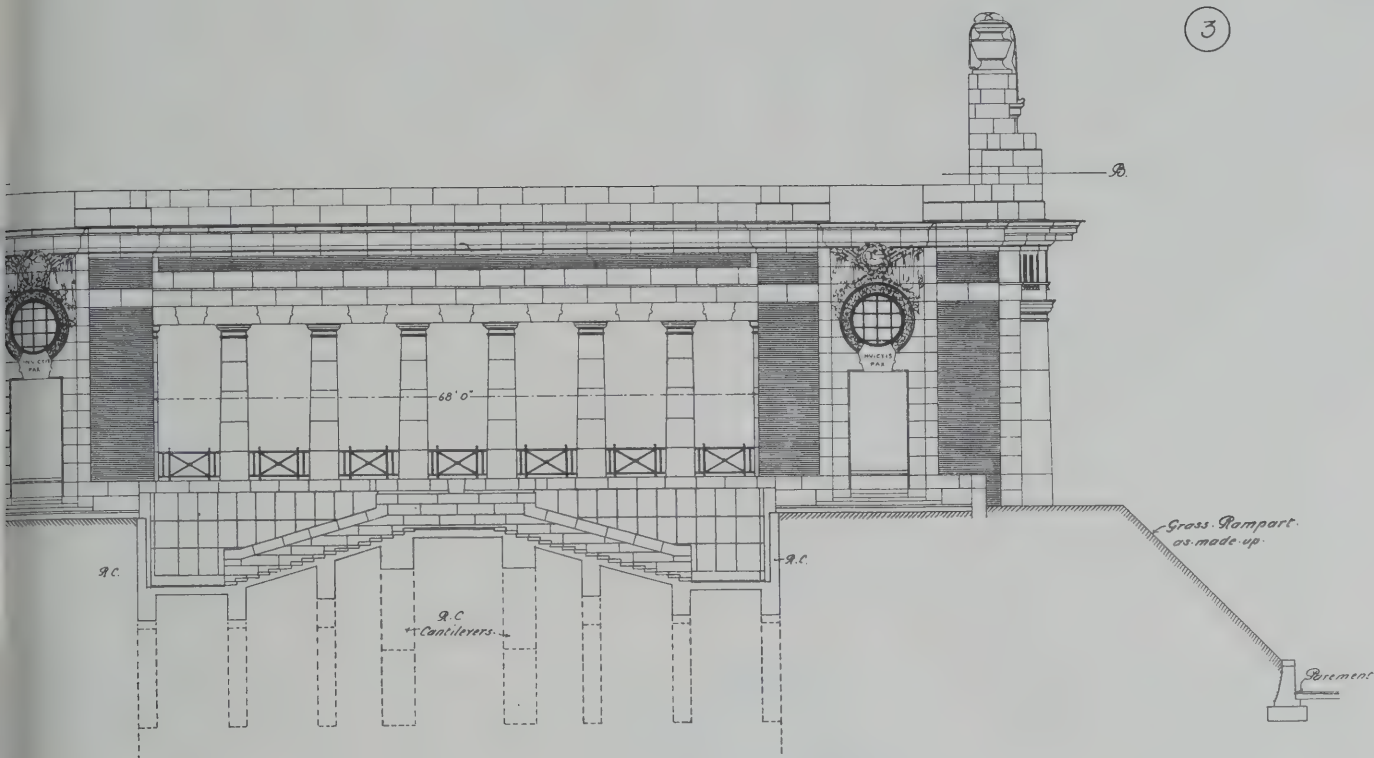
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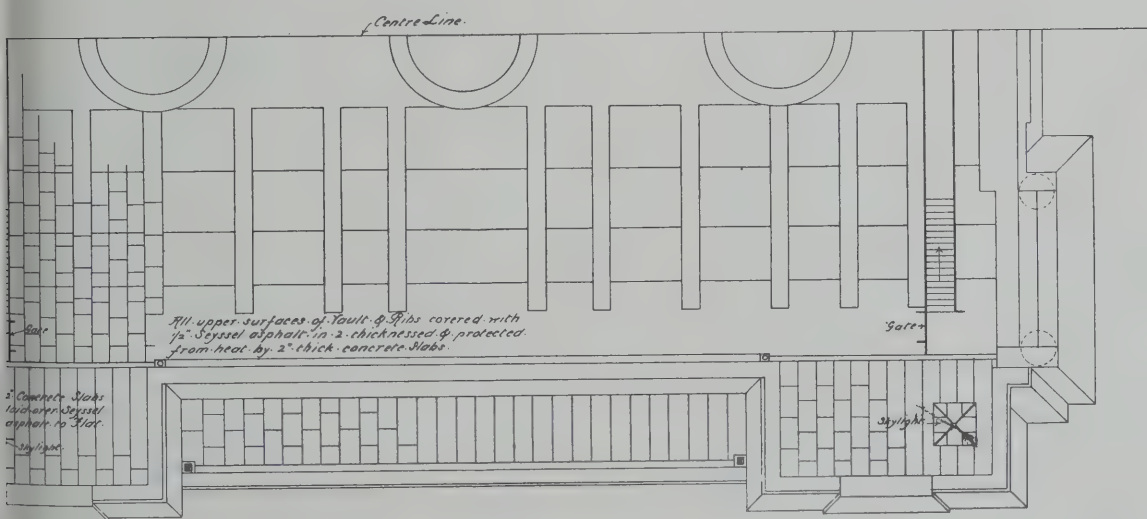
Design for Memorial to the Missing.
The Menin Gate, Ypres.
Details 1/4 inch to 1 foot.



JST 21st, 1925.



Section thro Rampart showing Side Elevation of Building & Causeway.



Half Plan above Roof at A.B.

Reginald Blomfield R.A.
Architect
New Court Temple
London
Sept - 1922

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Notes and Comments.

Housing as a Result of the Removal of Shingle.

A new fishing hamlet has been built by the Government near Start Point in Devonshire, which owes its origin to a singular circumstance. A cluster of thatched cottages used to stand by the edge of the sea protected by a great bank of shingle which served to break the force of gales. The Admiralty in 1896, dredged this shingle to form the foundation for Keyham Dockyard, Devonport, in consequence of which the sea played havoc with the unprotected cottages. The Treasury made a grant of £2,000 for the construction of a protecting breakwater, but this failed in 1922 during a gale and the whole of the cluster of cottages was demolished. Finally, after many petitions, grants of £9,600 were made to the building of a new village. This has now been completed, the village being removed 200 yards from the sea, each house built contains five rooms and are let at a rent of £15 10s. a year. The new "Hallsands" has an exceptional history behind it!

Smoke Abatement.

Dr. Saleeby, writing to the "Morning Advertiser," calls attention to the report that a million new houses may be built during the next five years, so far as he can learn, all equipped with the means of polluting the atmosphere. Though we quite agree with the doctor that all smoke is a nuisance, which should wherever possible be abated, and while we welcome any new discoveries or appliances which helps to that end, we believe the amount of smoke produced by the average house now built is almost negligible in consequence of the use of improved appliances in the shape of stoves and ranges. The serious pollution of the atmosphere is unquestionably that arising from industrial buildings and this is the chief point to be attacked. Much can, as has been demonstrated, be done by the right method of stoking furnaces, as it is proved that smoke can be almost eliminated by certain methods of stoking without alteration to existing furnaces. It would, in short, be feasible to fine the owners of works which created a smoke nuisance, as the remedy is one which can be readily applied.

Foreign Tiles in Taunton!

We are not surprised that a protest was made at a meeting of the Taunton Town Council against the use of foreign tiles for the roofs of the new Council houses there. The chairman of the Housing Committee said that the architect advised the use of foreign tiles, as they were cheaper and better than those of the lower priced local variety. Subsequently the makers of the local tiles offered to reduce their prices, but the offer came too late. We hope that our makers of bricks and tiles will strain every nerve to prevent the introduction of foreign bricks and tiles here, and by this means helping to reduce the amount of unemployment. We are always glad to note the cases where a town council rejects the inducement of lower prices from abroad and adheres to the use of British steel, as it seems a one-sided economy to pay less in prices and more for unemployment relief.

Mr. Williams Clough-Ellis on Modern Villages.

Mr. Williams Clough-Ellis considers that the Labour Government missed a great chance in its Housing Act, for the modern villages in rural and industrial areas were just, well—a dull, stupid muddle without start or finish. He advocated the conversion of big country estates and mansions into village communes and social institutions, and referred to the conversion of Stowe into a big country school as an instance of what might be effected. We think Mr. Williams Clough-Ellis is slightly in error in quoting the conversion of Stowe as a precedent for what might be done for working class purposes. A school is a single entity, requiring large rooms; a small house requires a number of very small subdivisions. It would be very difficult if not

impossible to convert the average large house into a number of small ones, but it may be comparatively easy to convert a large house into a school or public building, and we agree that wherever this is possible it constitutes the best way in which past traditions can be maintained and the ancient beauty of the land preserved.

Nantwich.

Nantwich, in Cheshire, like Droitwich in Worcestershire, has suffered through the subsidences caused by pumping out the brine, which has caused much damage to buildings in both places. At Nantwich it has been necessary to lift the whole centre of the town 5 feet, underpinning the foundations of the buildings. The whole of the business portion of the town, including 10 streets, three banks, the county court and two hundred shops and houses has been raised and underpinned without accident during the last three years, and the borough surveyor now announces the completion of the works. Parts of the existing foundations were removed and small hydraulic jacks inserted, using one or two quarts of water and raising weights up to 150 tons, after which wooden props were inserted until the new brick work was built up. Chemists shops have been so carefully raised that no bottle has been disturbed, and a fruiterer's shops with a frontage of 30 feet was moved bodily to another position, being pushed along on greased baulks for 35 feet. Only seven or eight buildings, including the old Angel Hotel, have had to be demolished because it was not safe to move them. The success of this enterprise reflects great credit on all concerned.

Sta. Sophia.

One of the best descriptions of the effect produced by a building is that of Sta. Sophia given in Mr. Robert Hitchens' book entitled "The Far East." It is an example of what can be conveyed to the mind by recording impressions rather than attempting to describe what is actually seen. Mr. Hitchens thought the exterior of Sta. Sophia was almost repellent, but entering it found himself "in the midst of a vast harmony, so wonderful, so penetrating and so calm," that he was conscious at once of a perfect satisfaction. "At first this happy sense of being completely satisfied seemed shed upon me by shaped space. In no other building have I had this exact feeling, that space had surely taken an inevitable form and was announcing itself to me. I stood beneath the great dome, one hundred and seventy-nine feet in height, and as I gazed upward I felt both possessed and released.

"For a long time I was fully aware of nothing but the vast harmony of Santa Sophia, descending upon me, wrapping me round. I saw moving figures, tiny yet full of meaning, passing in luminous distances, pausing, bending, kneeling; a ray of light falling upon a white turban; an Arab in a long pink robe leaning against a column of dusky porphyry; a dove circling under the dome as if under the sky. But I could not be strongly conscious of any detail, or be enchanted by any separate beauty. I was in the grasp of a perfect whole."

Mr. Hitchens goes on to refer in telling sentences to the colour effects of the building, to its lighting, which "gives a sort of lovely and delicate dimness touching as the dimness of twilight. It is divinely calm, almost as Nature can be when she would bring her healing to the unquiet human spirit."

And "In Santa Sophia intricacy by some magical process of genius results in simplicity. Everything seems gently but irresistibly compelled to become a minister to the beauty and calmness of the whole," and Mr. Hitchens goes on to recall what is merged into that whole—marble arcades, mosaics, columns and many arches, the prayer rugs fixed against the walls, the Sultan's box, the great doors with their curtains of dull red wool, the green shields on the pendentives bearing the names of Allah and Mohammed, of Ali, Osmar, Omar and Abu-Bekr. "Everything slips

into the heart of the great harmony, however precious, however simple, even however crude."

We do not think we have ever read an account of a building which seemed to convey so much as this wonderful description of impressions produced by the sight of an interior, a convincing proof that those buildings which are great enough to produce impressions can be written of without the employment of architectural terms or great technical knowledge.

St. Paul's.

A model of St. Paul's Cathedral demonstrating the peril to the national monument from the faulty piers of the dome and the suggested method of saving it by means of hidden collars of reinforced concrete has been ordered by the authorities of the Science Museum at South Kensington.

It will be executed personally by Mr. William Harvey, the architect, who is an authority on the preservation of ancient buildings and the author of a scheme for saving St. Paul's by means of concrete.

The Museum authorities required the model as a means of demonstrating to future generations the nature of the weaknesses discovered in Wren's structure, and the ideas of constructional experts of to-day.

Mr. Harvey—whose treatises on the preservation of St. Paul's has now been issued in book form by the Architectural Press—will show, by means of the model, how the great weight of the dome is not only crushing the faulty supporting piers, but is also bursting outward such distant walls as those at the South and West ends of the church.

ARCHITECT'S SCHEME.

Mr. Harvey, who has had experience of similar problems at Tintern, Netley and elsewhere, proposes:—

- (1) To put a hidden collar of reinforced concrete around the base of the dome to restrain the bursting pressures.
- (2) To put a similar hidden collar around the top of the

external walls, which are falling outwards as a result of those pressures.

(3) To shore up the arches between the piers supporting the dome with temporary supports of reinforced concrete.

(4) Afterwards, to replace the rotten cores of the piers with new cores of reinforced concrete.

When the whole work had been completed, the shoring between the arches would be removed. The concrete collars, hidden in the present masonry, would remain.

"ROUGE TO CURE ANÆMIA!"

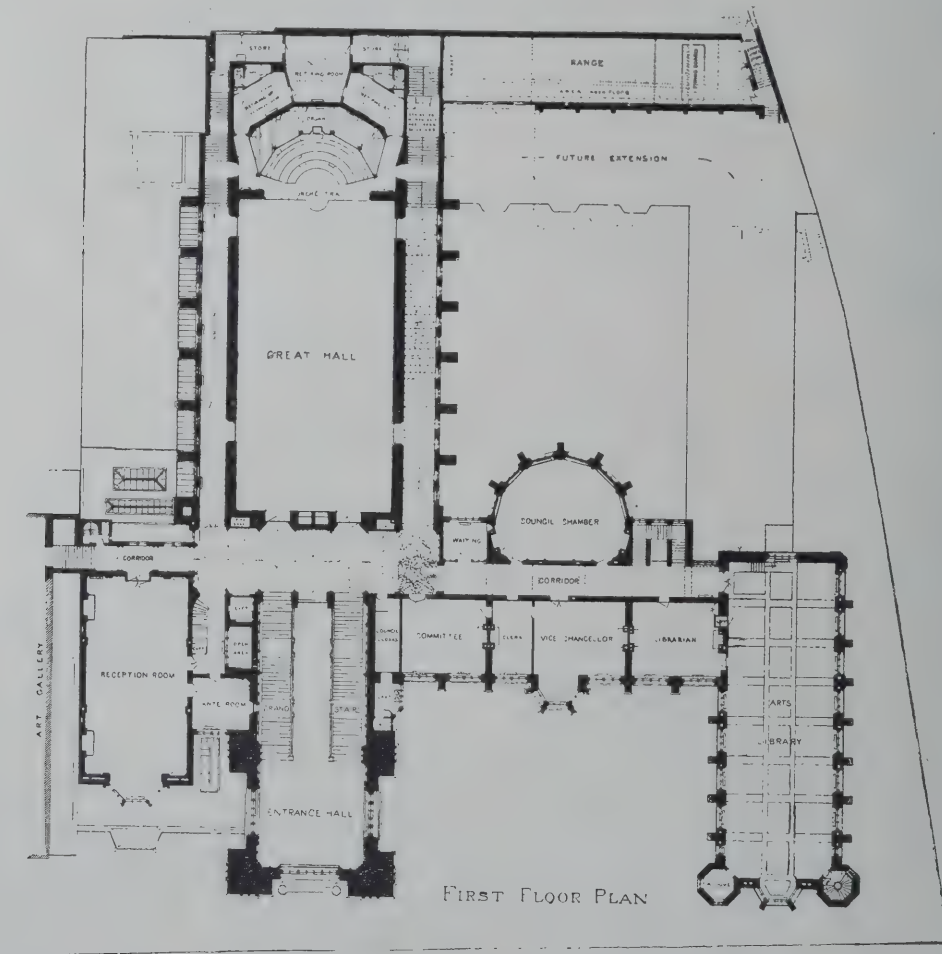
Mr. Harvey, in an interview to-day (Tuesday), protested against the refusal of the Commissioners to consider any further independent advice. He said:—

"That St. Paul's is valued by the British people has been shown by their response to the repair fund; but, as things stand, the public have no sufficient guarantee that it will be preserved to them and their children, or that their money will not mistakenly be applied to methods which actually are increasing the bursting pressures in the defective building."

"The subscribers have placed their trust in the Commission—and have fallen comfortably asleep in the shade of the prestige of its members. But such prestige has been gained in the creation of new works, and is no indication of fitness to investigate the causes of decay in an ancient building."

Mr. Harvey described how, even in Wren's lifetime, it had been recognised that all was not well with St. Paul's. Cracks began to appear before the building had been completed.

"And since that time," he continued, "the repairers have conscientiously been filling in those cracks. When a block of stone-facing has developed a fracture, a new piece has been inserted in its place. Their intention has been excellent, but, as for preventing the crash, such methods are utterly futile. It is like a woman rouging her cheeks as a cure for anæmia."



BRISTOL UNIVERSITY PLAN. SIR GEORGE OATLEY (MESSRS. OATLEY & LAWRENCE, Architects)



Bristol University New Buildings.

The new University buildings at Bristol, which we illustrate, were carried out from designs of Sir George Oatley, of Messrs. Oatley & Lawrence, and form a feature of marked interest in one of the oldest of our English towns. Their general character is Gothic and the planning is excellent, both for its practical qualities and the picturesque outlines given to the various elemental parts of the plan. The buildings are situated on the top of a hill at the end of Park

Street, with a main frontage of 273 feet to Queen's Road, and a depth of 292 feet. The tower is 215 feet high and forms a marked feature, giving great dignity to the vista as seen from Park Street. The masonry is of Bath stone from the Box Ground quarries, with Clipsham stone for the external moulded features. The roof of the great hall is of English oak. The whole forms an admirable group of collegiate buildings of which Bristol may well be proud.





BRISTOL UNIVERSITY NEW BUILDINGS: THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.
SIR GEORGE OATLEY (MESSRS. OATLEY & LAWRENCE, Architects).



BRISTOL UNIVERSITY NEW BUILDINGS: THE GREAT HALL.
SIR GEORGE OATLEY (MESSRS. OATLEY & LAWRENCE, Architects).

Picturesque Corners of Savoy

2.—Around the Lake of Annecy.

BY H. A. J. LAMB, A.R.I.B.A.



THE CHATEAU DE MONTROTTER.

the summer months. Americans and English tourists too in increasing numbers succumb to its charms. Of the many attractions, be it walking, climbing, bathing or motoring, there are two which I suppose every visitor enjoys sooner or later, during the stay, a trip round the lake in one of the small steamers, and an excursion to the Gorges of the Fier. To the latter it is but a pleasant walk of $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Annecy; to the less energetic, the railway carries one almost within stone's throw to a sight which, but for the skill of



THÔNES: SHOWING 16TH CENTURY TOWER.

French holiday makers are not slow to realise the attraction of this beautiful district, which fills up rapidly during



CHAPEL AT CROPT ABOVE THÔNES.



MENTHON: VIEW OF CHURCH.

engineers, would not be available. By the construction of a narrow cantilevered gangway it is possible to view these gorges, a narrow defile nearly 300 yards long, so narrow and vertical and overhung with trees as to be an almost natural tunnel, with the rushing torrents of the Fier far below one's feet.

Standing well back on the crown of a hill is the Château de Montrottier. Its origin is lost in the past. Mention of a castle here was made in 1263. Until the Revolution it belonged to one of the most powerful families in the Savoy. To-day it belongs to the Académie Florimantane of Annecy, a Society founded in 1606 by St. Francis de Sales, and was largely restored during the latter half of the nineteenth century. From a distance the fourteenth century circular tower attracts the attention. Not until one enters the courtyard through a Gothic archway, built against the old stonework, can one see that this tower is absolutely detached and rears itself to some height above the surrounding roofs. Divided into six floors, reached by a spiral staircase, the thickness of its walls dwindles to a bare nine inches at the top. Openings in the top floor give a magnificent view of the surrounding country. One can picture the tower in a state of defence. Through the machicolations molten metal and other missiles could be dropped vertically on to the heads of the besiegers, the walls at the base are battered, the idea being to cause anything thrown down to ricochet and create further casualties.

Below, one floor was used as a prison, another for storing records, and another for the use of the Alchemist, whose duty it was to keep up the supply of boiling oil, lead, etc., for the heads of those below! Other rooms in the château are used as a museum, where one can see a most interesting collection of armoury, tapestries, furniture, costumes and china, the last named being particularly good.

The many villages around the lake depend largely on the regular steamer service; the only boat in harmony with the surrounding scenery of mountains and water of the deepest blue is that used, curiously enough, for the conveyance of building materials, chiefly breeze concrete blocks and patent tiles, to the different villages requiring them, which has the white butterfly shaped sails and rig of those seen on the Lake of Geneva.

The east side of the lake is undoubtedly the prettiest, with its backing of high mountains. Above Menthon is the castle in which St. Bernard, the founder of the monasteries, was born in the tenth century, and was mostly rebuilt during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Near the water are sulphur and alkaline baths built among the foundations of those that existed in the Roman era.



DUINGT: CASTLE STANDING ABOVE LAKE.

Talloires, half an hour's walk from Menthon, has one of the prettiest situations. The abbey by the lakeside, founded in the ninth century, has been modernised, and to-day is one of the big hotels of the district, the cloisters looking out on to a tiny court being utilised as a dining hall. Needless to say from here there are many attractive walks, particularly those east and west of the Tournette, the highest mountain in the district, which leads to Thônes. Each little hamlet among the hills, in a setting of vineyards, has a fresh charm, to mention two in particular, La Côte and La Perrière, near Montmin.

At La Perrière, a tiny village of clustered cottages with thatched roofs, it was interesting to see the thatchers at work on one cottage, fastening trusses of reeds to the rough lathing.

At La Côte the cottages with over-hanging wooden top stories have quite a Swiss atmosphere about them.

One cannot help noticing except in a few cases, the extreme ugliness of the churches, in these parts; usually the nave with high pitched roof finishes against a square tower with steeple often extremely grotesque in character.

A tiny little chapel at Cropt above Thônes for plainness would be hard to beat. Bearing a date 1628, it has obviously been much restored, its whitewashed walls have quoins,

window and door surrounds painted on; the nicest part is the roof, which fortunately has wooden shingles in lieu of patent tiles. At Thônes, which is quite a country town and a centre for farm produce, one can again see a fine series of arcades, which skirt the square, in the centre of which is the seventeenth century church with tower a century earlier, spoilt by a modern and rather ornate steeple.

Duingt competes with Talloires for lakeside prettiness; a modern castle on a promontory, is a noticeable feature; on a hill above is an older château, restored in the fifteenth century style, which was on different occasions the house of the already mentioned St. Francis de Sales.

It was rather startling to find at a hotel here, Les Libellules, a pergola, by the water's edge, with columns and Corinthian caps in cast concrete, although proportionately wrong, they look better in the photograph than they appear actually, the colour of the concrete having too blue a tinge; one wishes they were in stone or marble. How much nicer they would have looked.

(To be concluded.)

The final section will include some places within reach of Annecy.

French Building Crisis.

Lack of Capital for Private Enterprise.

A French proverb declares: *Quand le bâtiment va, tout va*. This means that when the architect and builder are busy trade is thriving, the professions prospering, and everyone earning without exception. Though such an ideal state of things is seldom completely realised, it is nevertheless a profound truth that a country in which construction is normally developing shows the surest symptom of soundness.

In the light of a saying which crystallises French ancestral wisdom and experience, the economic state of France, and particularly Paris, is not as wholesome as it should be. Private building enterprise is virtually paralysed. Despite the famine of flats, the number of houses in course of construction continues to be insignificant. A few conspicuous exceptions only emphasise the rule. Some wealthy speculators are erecting sumptuous modern structures which will be luxuriously installed and sold in *apartements*. One of these in the vicinity of the Bois de Boulogne contains flats which will fetch from one thousand five hundred to two million francs each, according to size and storey. Such enterprises, of course, supply only the wants of a small rich minority, French or foreign, who for various reasons of taste or taxation do not care to acquire a more distinguished dwelling in the shape of a *Hotel particulier* (private mansion).

The capitalists disposed to cater for the real Parisian population are growing smaller and smaller and beautiful less. In the "popular" precincts of the Avenue Daumesnil 48 buildings, representing 1,500 flats to let, are rising slowly from their foundations. This particular spectacle strikes the passer-by because of its rarity. It is not at all likely to excite appreciable imitation. It exhausts the possibilities of construction—for letting purposes at least—for a period the duration of which it would be difficult to discount. The fact of it is that for a variety of reasons, the principal of which result from Rent Laws suspending the normal play of economic forces, money grows more and more shy of building investments. The architects who have not abandoned the capital for the more fruitful fields of the devastated areas only too well know what a fatiguing and often futile task it is to obtain the concurrence of capitalists for the realisation of even the most prudent and practical projects. The cost of materials, the difficulty of mobilising competent labour, the menace of additional restrictive legislation, and the uncertainty of obtaining really remunerative rents are notorious facts against which the ablest negotiator's talent proves often powerless.

SOME ELOQUENT FIGURES.

A few figures will render more comprehensible the extent to which the resources of the building trade have shrunk

since before the war. An organism known as the *Sous-Comptoir des Entrepreneurs* (a sort of bank) advanced 376,600,000 francs in the year 1914 for 2,917 constructions. During the *ten-year* period 1914-24 only 1,519 credits were opened, and the entire advances only reached a total of 284,500,000 francs. Far less houses have thus been built in the past ten years than in practically the same number of pre-war months.

This famine of funds, combined with the famine of dwellings, creates a situation deplorable in its consequences both for the public and for the "men of good will" whose energies it paralyses. Some of the more enterprising architects and capitalists have nevertheless succeeded in putting a certain number of constructive schemes on foot, but they are naturally taking precautions to ensure that their houses will be "paying propositions." The *logement* to let is thus becoming a thing of the past, and 99 per cent. of the new buildings that begin to materialise are "to be sold," flatwise, in the same way as the mansions destined for American millionaires and *nouveaux riches*. Posters displayed on the scaffoldings and advertisements in the newspapers offer these *apartements*, when available, at prices payable in bulk or in instalments.

In the suburbs, where relatively cheap sites are to be had, people with small private fortunes have constructed small two-storey villas, sufficiently spacious for a French family, at a cost averaging from 50,000 to 75,000 francs. This has been often achieved with the aid of advances from special companies, some of whose contracts, by the way, have not at all turned out as advantageous as anticipated. Some of the houses have been sold too cheaply; the greatest difficulties have been experienced in recruiting labour profitably utilisable, and builders have had to draw their *main d'œuvre* from the Italian, Spanish and Polish colonies. A tenant who organised the labour for his own villa assures the writer that the Italian workers give the greatest satisfaction—a satisfaction not to be obtained with his own countrymen. This circumstance furnishes a side-light on one of the contributory causes of the crisis in the capital and its vicinity.

POST-WAR AND PRE-WAR PARIS RENTS.

Before the war a "petit appartement" of three pieces was to be had in the best quarter of Paris for 1,000 francs per year. To-day it is not to be found for the proverbial love or money, and when some fortuitous combination of circumstances sets free one of these flats it lets with lightning rapidity for 3,500 to 4,000 francs, without counting the *pourboire* (1,000 to 1,500 francs) which buys the "preference" of the concierge (guardian). As for the flats in the rare new houses that are let and not sold, the absolute minimum rent may be reckoned at 2,000 francs per room (the pound sterling is at 90 francs at the time of writing). This is partly due to the fact that the flat without "modern comfort" (the French *confort moderne*—so common before 1914—is banished from current construction. Bathrooms and central heating are now regarded as essentials and figure on almost all the plans of private undertakings.

The crisis in the French building trade—legacy of the war—is one of the most serious social and economic trials of the epoch, and as such is a source of worry and anxiety to both the central and local administrations. Ingenuity and inventiveness have vainly sought a comprehensive solution susceptible of gradually re-establishing the normal relation between supply and demand without intolerably aggravating the existing financial burdens. Whatever means may eventually be found for effectually coping with the problem it is certain that they can be only such as will bring about continuous construction. No legislative ledger-deman or "collectivist" regulation of rents can replace this imperative necessity of modern existence.

W. W. O'M.

Messrs. Everseal Products, Ltd., manufacturers of the Everseal Waterproofing Compounds, write us that they have inadvertently used the word "Preservol," a registered title of the well-known products of Messrs. Major & Co., Ltd., and asked us to publish their regret for the error.



THIRTY-FIVE STOREY BUILDING DESIGNED AFTER
PRIMITIVE AMERICAN MOTIVES.
ALFRED C. BOSSOM, Architect.

America's National Architecture.

By Alfred C. Bossom, F.R.I.B.A.

From "*The American Architect*."

A national architecture is not one copied from some other country on account of its beauty alone. In the extreme, the Laplander has built his igloo or the native of Hindu China his rice-straw tent to meet climatic conditions. So have other famous architectures been built up. But they have followed a precedent, and this has been used as the basis of upbuilding of every great distinctively national architecture.

Ictinus, Bramante, Michelangelo, and Sir Christopher Wren all took advantage of what had gone before. Architecture is distinctive in this sense from the other arts, for, not only is it a matter of beauty but it also has to conform to many physical requirements to be successful. The painter can turn a picture upside down and it affects no one but himself, but the architecture creating a house without stairs or roof will have perpetrated the useless. Precedent on both the practical and æsthetic sides is inseparable from a successful national architecture.

For years the claim has been that America should have her own national architecture,—one indigenous to herself, and by force of circumstances America has developed a type of building which was never built outside of her borders. But, as regards precedent. What does this mean? It means that other minds who have had similar problems to study, have developed certain results and in continuation, we build upon their thought foundations. Refinements are introduced. Theories are carried a step further, but all along the path of progress.

Rome in the heyday of her conquering success did not have the remarkable opportunity that the United States has to-day, but she did create a national style. Why has America not done so? Due to the demand for tremendous quantity and appalling speed, American architects have

largely turned to the countries whose work has been the more illustrated or studied. Trade routes and pleasure pilgrimages have covered Europe with American visitors. There is hardly an unknown building in the Old World. In fact, it is to be doubted if there are not better records of the architecture of certain European states in America than they have at home. Thus almost out of necessity, the heavily pressed architects of America have by instinct delved among the precedents of Europe in the solution of their problems and the world's verdict is that they have achieved remarkable success therefrom.



RESTORATION OF THE GREAT PYRAMID AT TIKAL,
QUATEMALA. By ALFRED C. BOSSOM, Architect.



PYRAMID AT TIKAL, QUATE MAIA.

European architectures generally were all based upon their national requirements and had their principal axes horizontal, whereas America's main compositions have the vertical as the principal axes and so it has been largely a matter of detail only wherein America has borrowed from the European precedents. Climatic influences throughout Europe were not similar to those here. In Europe the object was to keep out the weather, the cold and rain. In America, our desire is to let the weather in,—to keep us cool. Italian work had its great wall surfaces—beautiful indeed, but commercially America is compelled to have the reverse, with great window spaces, the wall being suppressed.

The Greeks had a stateliness incompatible with the American temperament. In fact all had to meet their own conditions. A national architecture should be a portrait in stone and brick of a type of life and the form of activity lived by the people, and in the hands of America's very clever designers, marvellous buildings have been conceived and constructed based on the European motives. But hasn't America got an artistic heritage of her own? Hasn't she a cultural background as complete as any country in the world? Didn't the men on this continent pour out their souls' efforts in the creation of vast buildings at the same time the men in Europe were doing it?

In the early centuries of the Christian era, the Mayans in Yucatan, a people who probably migrated to this continent from Asia five or six thousand years ago with little or no traceable artistic instincts and who by the influences of nature, atmospheric, geographic, &c., evolved an architectural art of their own as complete as that of any European country. This American native architecture grew to great perfection, but due to difficult climatic conditions, the unpopularity of travelling in countries with revolutionary habits, Mexico and Central America have not been investigated or studied to any great degree. The archaeologist is almost alone in his work. The artistic side has been more or less incidentally investigated until quite recently.

An architect starting a new design is practically compelled to refer to the creations of his predecessors and no client would thank an architect who ignored the consideration of the experience that others had gained. Precedent due to good printing is more available than ever, and rightly

so, for it enables the architect to have a better idea of how his complete design will appear. He is not experimenting so much and great investments are not imperilled by uncertainties, at least, not beyond a certain point.

The need for producing the drawings of great buildings to-day compels a great many men to be working on the one set of drawings and by having a precedent it is far easier to maintain a consistency than otherwise would be the case. Planning, general designing, and laying out, of course, come under the direction of the one controlling mind, but his artistic measuring rod has to be very long to reach over every detail, particularly in the great commercial buildings which in aggregate form by all means, the largest portion of his work.

Rents of Houses Provided under the 1923 and 1924 Housing Acts in the Chief Towns of the Country with Populations of Over 160,000.*

LOCAL AUTHORITY.		1919 SCHEME.					
		Non-Parlour		Parlour			
		2	3	2	3	4	
London ..	..	9/3	9/3	—	11/6	12/6	
" ..	.. C.C.	14/6	15/6	—	16/6	18/6	
Hackney ..	.. M.B.	—	—	8/7	—	14/6	
Kensington ..	.. M.B.	—	—	—	16/-	18/6	
Lambeth ..	..	10/-	—	—	—	—	
" ..	.. M.B.	10/6	12/6	—	15/-	—	
Poplar ..	.. M.B.	7/4	8/5	—	10/-	11/-	
Wandsworth ..	.. M.B.	—	14/-	—	15/6	—	
Birmingham ..	..	—	7/-	—	8/3	9/6	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	8/6	7/-	10/6	11/3	
Bolton ..	..	—	—	—	10/-	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	8/6	9/-	—	12/-	—	
Bradford ..	.. C.B.	6/4	6/8	—	9/3	10/3	
Bristol ..	..	—	8/6	—	10/-	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	7/6	9/6	—	11/6	—	
Cardiff ..	.. C.B.	—	8/6	—	10/-	—	
Croydon ..	..	—	12/-	—	15/6	17/-	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	13/6	—	16/-	17/6	
Kingston-upon-Hull	C.B.	8/-	9/-	—	10/9	—	
Leeds ..	..	—	7/3	—	9/3	11/-	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	9/-	—	11/-	12/-	
Leicester ..	..	—	7/6 to	—	9/6 to	12/-	
" ..	.. C.B.	7/-	8/9	—	13/-	12/6	
Liverpool ..	.. C.B.	—	9/9	—	11/-	—	
Manchester ..	..	7/-	9/-	—	11/-	12/6	
" ..	.. C.B.	8/-	10/-	—	12/-	15/-	
Newcastle-on-Tyne	..	7/6	—	—	—	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	8/-	9/6	—	11/-	12/3	
Nottingham ..	..	6/6	7/6	—	9/6	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	7/-	8/3	—	10/3	12/6	
Plymouth ..	..	—	8/9	—	10/-	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	8/3	—	10/6	12/6	
Portsmouth ..	.. C.B.	8/-	8/3	—	9/6	10/-	
Salford ..	.. C.B.	—	8/6	—	10/6	12/6	
Sheffield ..	.. C.B.	7/-	8/6	—	10/-	—	
Southampton ..	..	9/-	10/9	—	11/6	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	10/3	11/6	—	13/2	14/6	
Stoke-on-Trent ..	..	—	—	—	10/6	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	8/6	10/-	—	12/-	13/6	
Sunderland ..	.. C.B.	—	—	—	—	17/-	
Swansea ..	..	—	7/-	—	9/-	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	8/6	—	10/-	—	
1923 SCHEME.							
London ..	..	8/6	9/3	—	11/6	12/6	
" ..	.. C.C.	10/6	12/6	—	13/6	16/-	
Hackney ..	.. M.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Kensington ..	..	—	—	—	19/-	—	
Lambeth ..	..	—	15/-	—	—	—	
" ..	.. M.B.	—	16/-	—	18/-	—	
Poplar ..	.. M.B.	7/10	9/-	—	—	—	
Wandsworth ..	.. M.B.	—	12/6	—	—	—	
Birmingham ..	..	—	7/9	—	9/-	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	8/-	—	10/6	—	
Bolton ..	.. C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Bradford ..	.. C.B.	6/4	6/8	—	9/3	10/3	
Bristol ..	..	—	6/6	—	9/6	—	
" ..	.. C.B.	—	9/6	—	11/-	—	
Cardiff ..	..	—	7/-	—	—	—	

* This has been sent us from the Ministry of Health and may, we think, be of interest to those preparing housing schemes.

1923 SCHEME—continued.

LOCAL AUTHORITY		Non-Parlour			Parlour		
		2	3	2	3	4	
Cardiff ..	C.B.	—	8/6	—	10/-	—	
Croydon ..	C.B.	12/-	13/6	—	—	—	
Kingston-on-Hull	C.B.	8/-	9/-	—	10/9	—	
Leeds ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Leicester ..	C.B.	—	8/-	—	10/-	—	
Liverpool ..	C.B.	—	9/6	—	10/9	—	
Manchester ..	C.B.	7/-	9/-	—	11/-	12/6	
"	C.B.	8/-	10/-	—	12/6	15/-	
Newcastle-on-Tyne	C.B.	7/-	8/-	—	—	—	
"	C.B.	—	9/6	—	—	11/-	
Nottingham ..	C.B.	7/3	7/6	—	9/6	—	
"	C.B.	7/9	8/3	—	10/3	—	
Plymouth ..	C.B.	9/-	—	—	—	—	
"	C.B.	9/6	10/3	—	—	—	
Portsmouth ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Salford ..	C.B.	8/-	8/6	—	—	—	
Sheffield ..	C.B.	7/-	8/6	—	10/-	—	
Southampton ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Stoke-on-Trent ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Sunderland ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Swansea ..	C.B.	—	8/-	—	—	—	
"	C.B.	—	8/6	—	—	—	
1924 SCHEME.							
London ..	C.C.	—	11/3	—	12/3	13/3	
"	C.C.	—	13/6	—	13/6	14/6	
Hackney ..	M.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Kensington ..	M.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Lambeth ..	M.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Poplar ..	—	—	9/- to	—	—	—	
"	M.B.	7/10	12/11	—	—	—	
Wandsworth ..	M.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Birmingham ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Bolton ..	C.B.	—	—	8/6	8/9	—	
Bradford ..	C.B.	6/4	6/8	—	9/3	10/3	
Bristol ..	C.B.	—	7/6	—	8/6	—	
Cardiff ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Croydon ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Kingston-on-Hull	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Leeds ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Leicester ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Liverpool ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Manchester ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Newcastle-on-Tyne	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Nottingham ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Plymouth ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Portsmouth ..	—	—	—	—	12/6	—	
"	C.B.	—	11/-	—	13/6	—	
Salford ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Sheffield ..	C.B.	7/-	8/6	—	10/-	—	
Southampton ..	C.B.	—	—	—	—	—	
Stoke-on-Trent ..	C.B.	—	8/6	—	—	—	
Sunderland ..	C.B.	8/-	9/-	—	—	—	
Swansea ..	—	—	—	—	9/-	—	
"	C.B.	—	9/-	—	10/-	—	

Beauty in Architecture.

My dictionary defines beauty as "a particular grace or excellence," and it is just this quality in architecture that is so elusive of definition. All buildings cannot be beautiful to all people, but many buildings are beautiful to most people. There is a fallacy amongst architects that the layman is not interested in architecture. He *is* interested, but in the company of architects he is afraid to express an opinion; he has heard so much about styles and influences that he is fearful lest he should praise a building of a type not then in vogue. And surely it is that important person, the man of average intelligence, who is the best judge of what is beautiful in architecture, and not the practitioner himself, brought up in some particular school of thought, often a confirmed Classicist or Gothicism before he has reached maturity? If, then, beauty is that combination of good qualities which makes the greatest appeal to the greatest number, it is necessary to discover what these qualities are.

A setting sun in a sullen sky and a group of factory chimneys in silhouette; the passer-by is arrested by the sight and perhaps wonders why. The explanation lies in the combined effect of colour, composition and contrast. A winding narrow street, projecting gables, casement windows, shaky lines, and we have picturesque-

ness. The Parthenon on its hill—perfection of form, idealism. A Gothic cathedral—pointed arches, slender columns, misty heights, ugly corbels—etherealism, decoration, individuality, humour.

But behind all this is nationality, tradition and personal association, and to the layman no building is so beautiful as the one possessing these qualities. The last is outside the influence of the architect, but the others are not, although too often disregarded, or there would not be so many unsuccessful buildings in our midst. A case in point will illustrate my meaning. An architect was invited to design a war memorial to be erected in the Elizabethan gardens of an old English home, used by a small country town as a public park. An old tower of the period of the Hall stood at the end of the lily pond. This was pulled down and replaced by an Italian summer house. Now the populace cries: "They have taken away our beautiful tower and they have given us a cowshed."

The Renaissance naturally originated and flowered to perfection in Italy, the renaissance of a national form of expression, and was unnaturally introduced into France and England, a hot-house plant in a northern clime. Society made it the fashion, but its growth has been and always will be stunted. If some individual decided to erect a pyramid on his country estate people would go to see it, call him eccentric, probably mad, and the thing a curiosity. But in its natural setting, a survival of a past civilisation, an upcropping in a flat landscape, the pyramid is felt to be logical, the tomb of a great man. Why not start a new fashion and build after the Indian manner?

If we look into the history of the birth of Gothic architecture in this country we shall find eclecticism, foreign forms adapted to the needs and the clime of the times. Churches built to the glory of God, but not forgetting the frailties of man. So, too, the Romans borrowed from the Greeks. Eclecticism is a fine thing—let us go out and learn from the Chinese, the Indians, the ancient Egyptians, the Greeks, Romans and Americans, but let us come home and present posterity with a thing of beauty, possessing the qualities of nationality and tradition, expressed in the terms and the materials of our era.

Tradition has been wonderfully preserved in the domestic architecture of Norfolk, and so, too, in other counties local tradition, founded on local conditions, materials and usages, is still very much alive. Do Englishmen in "the uttermost parts of the earth" remember the ostentatious Portland stone palaces of London or do they visualise some collection of quaint cottages grouped around a church built in the manner with which their forebears have been familiar?

I do not want to be accused of taking refuge behind my present title in order to discuss modernism in design. My desire is rather to discover the real essence of beauty, and sometimes if we cast off our professional mantle and look at it from a distance we see more clearly the cut of the cloth. I am only discussing the exterior of buildings, for it is a first principle that a building must be planned in a manner best fitted to its particular needs.

Our domestic architecture is probably the most beautiful in the world—even the Americans tell us we can beat them in this direction; it is chiefly in our public buildings that we fail. Some recent exceptions point the way, and amongst these Liverpool Cathedral, the Middlesex Guildhall and Heals' shop in Tottenham Court Road stand out as striking examples of three quite dissimilar types. Liverpool Cathedral is first and foremost an English Cathedral, although Sir Gilbert Scott is credited with saying that he was influenced a good deal by Spanish work. The Middlesex Guildhall speaks of Gothic and Classic influences and so successfully occupies its site between the Abbey and the pseudo-Classic block of Government buildings, but it is also essentially modern. Heals' is simply a twentieth century furniture shop and therefore, fulfilling all the other canons of good design, is beautiful.

The average man says, in effect, "What have I to do with thee, O thou of little faith?" Let architects have faith in their own country, in their own buildings and in their own times, and this apparent apathy will disappear, for "a thing of beauty is a joy for ever."

WILLIAM W. WOOD.

First Contest of Projects for Model Workers' Homes Announced by the Moscow Soviet of Workers, Peasants and Red Army Deputies.*

Foreword by N. Popov.

Judging by the special literature appearing on the subject of architecture, by the proposals coming from inventors of building processes and materials, and by the number of experiments and projects submitted, it may be assumed that the minds of technical builders have become alert. The Soviet architects appreciate the full gravity of the housing problem, feeling it to be their main task to cheapen the cost of building by the use of rational methods of construction, of cheaper materials and efficient planning.

The contest announced by the Moscow Soviet is to constitute a review of the achievements of Soviet builders in the domain of housing for the working-class. The contest will enable the technical builder to submit all his ideas and attainments in the domain of housing for the workers to the public opinion of the country.

Of course, the aim of the contest is not merely to bring out individual ideas and building methods. The contest demands the embodiment of the ideas in a project, in the complete application of the ideas or invention under the actual circumstances. The contest is not interested in methods and proposals which, however brilliant in themselves, cannot be easily and profitably carried out just now for the purpose of erecting workers' homes in the city and province of Moscow.

We expect from this contest quite real solutions in regard to planning and construction, and above all, the utilisation of cheap and easily obtainable materials. . . .

It is upon these two questions that our technical builders should have their say through this contest. They should feel quite free to submit revolutionary and daring ideas, free from musty tradition and prejudice. Pure reasoning, building mechanics and physics, these are the only laws obligatory to the architect in the selection of materials and constructive methods.

The scientific selection of cheap constructive methods and materials should be embodied in a plan guaranteeing sanitary and comfortable dwellings.

The plan must be co-ordinated with the real requirements and living habits of our workers. The plan should prompt our workers to quit any unhealthy habits inculcated by living in uncomfortable dwellings. On the other hand, the plan of the dwellings should not prompt the workers to excessive luxury and increased household expenditure. . . .

Moscow, June 29, 1925.

Requirements.

The aim of the contest is to devise types of houses with dwellings for working class families living in individual households, under the living and climatic conditions of the province of Moscow.

The basic considerations of the plan should be :

(1) Economic construction and profitable exploitation of the houses, as the result of efficient construction and rational selection of the materials.

(2) Profitable utilisation of the area (the maximum of living space with the maximum of cubic dimension), while observing the fundamental requirements of hygiene and offering the maximum comforts to the tenants, as a result of correct planning.

1.—TYPES OF HOUSES.

(a) A two-storeyed house containing 4—8 dwellings situated on one floor—i.e., the whole of each dwelling located on one floor.

(b) A house of the ordinary block type with no less than three dwellings, each located on two floors.

Note.—In dwellings located on two floors, the second floor may be of the garret type.

(c) A 3 or 4 storeyed fire-proof house with central heating ; not less than three entrances to the dwellings from the staircase-platform on each floor.

Note 1.—The façades should be so drawn on the plan that the combination of such houses in pairs of blocks should produce a harmonic artistic effect.

Note 2.—In 3 or 4 storeyed houses provision should be made in the project for laundries with ironing and drying rooms.

* We give extracts from an interesting document sent us containing conditions for a competition for Russian Workers' Houses. The document comes to us from the U.S.S.R. Society of Cultural Relations, 150 Southampton Row, London.

2.—TYPES OF DWELLINGS.

(a) A dwelling consisting of one bedroom, dining room, kitchen, pantry, w.c., bath-room and passage. Total floor-space in each dwelling, including partitions and stoves, not more than 45 square metres.

(b) A dwelling for a family of four, consisting of two bedrooms, dining-room, kitchen, pantry, w.c., bath-room and passage. Total floor-space per dwelling, including partitions and stoves, not more than 54 square metres.

(c) A dwelling for a family of six, consisting of not less than two bedrooms, dining-room, kitchen, pantry, w.c., bathroom and passage. Total floor-space, including internal partitions and stoves, not more than 63 square metres.

Note 1.—Plans of the same types of dwellings and of the same floor-space may be submitted in an alternative variant containing no bath-rooms. The submission of an estimate for the latter variant is not obligatory.

Note 2.—The ratio of the different types of dwellings per each house should be something like the following :

(a) Two-room dwellings, 50 per cent.

(b) Three-room dwellings, 30 per cent.

(c) More than three rooms, 20 per cent.

Note 3.—It is permissible to have combined kitchen-dining-rooms and kitchen-sculleries.

3. CONSTRUCTION AND ECONOMY STIPULATIONS.

The following basic conditions should be observed in the construction of buildings and premises whether of the types now used or of those to be devised.

(1) Co-ordination with the existing building laws.

(2) The period of serviceableness of the structures should correspond to the amortisation of the capital invested.

(3) Fire-proof roofing.

(4) Maximum fire-protection of walls and staircases.

Not.—Ferro-concrete construction is permissible in 3 or 4 storeyed houses.

(5) Heat-conductivity of outer walls and ceilings to be not greater than in brick-houses, with walls of $2\frac{1}{2}$ brick thickness, reinforced with wooden joists, with plastered rooms and deposits of earth or slack to a thickness of 2 versheks.

(6) Heat-retaining capacity of outer walls to be not less than in hewn-timber houses.

(7) The selection of materials and articles of equipment employed should answer the local marketing and manufacturing conditions. Imported materials and special equipments are permissible only in exceptional cases and in limited quantities.

(8) Reserve-durability of individual parts for metal, 3-fold ; for stone and wood, 6-fold.

(9) The proposed construction plans should yield an economy of not less than 10 per cent. on wooden structures as compared with ordinary hewn-timber houses, and not less than 15 per cent. on fire-proof as compared with brick buildings.

(10) Periodical and capital repairs of the projected buildings, cheapened as indicated above, should cost on the average not dearer than the repairs of the usual types of houses (wooden, hewn-timber or brick), while the heating expenditure should not exceed that of houses of ordinary construction.

4.—PLANNING AND SANITARY STIPULATIONS.

(1) The site of the building ground shall be determined by the number of dwellings in the house, figuring on 225 square metres to each dwelling in a two-storeyed house, 170 square metres in a three-storeyed house, and 150 square metres in a four-storeyed house.

(2) The house shall be built inwards from the line of the street, not less than 4 metres within the court.

(3) Access from the street to all dwellings is desirable.

(4) Entrance to the court may be from the rear.

(5) Offices : each dwelling shall have a combined cellar and ice-storage with a wood-shed on top of it, measuring 7 square metres for each dwelling. For three and four-storeyed buildings shall be built only wood-stores (for the kitchen stove), not in excess of 4 square metres for each building.

(6) Each dwelling shall be served by one staircase running both into the street and into the yard, and situated in the capital walls. Not more than one split rung shall be permitted for two flights of stairs. Minimum width of flight, 1 metre.

(7) The entrance hall shall be of a depth of not less than 1.4 metres.

(8) The outside landing-stage shall not have more than five steps.

(9) The attic shall be provided with an egress from the inner staircase, of not less than 0.70 metre in width.

(10) Each dwelling shall have a warm w.c.

(11) In each kitchen there shall be a cupboard for provisions of not less than 0.5 square metre floor-space.

(12) Among the old and new kinds of food-cooking installations, there may also be a Russian oven of small size with a hearth. No Russian oven shall be admissible in three- and four-storeyed houses.

(13) In two-storeyed houses, for the heating of the rooms, may be permitted central heating, individual, "local," all the new kinds of local heating appliances, and also improved models of brick-stoves.

(14) For every dwelling shall be assured thorough, or at least corner, ventilation. Every living-room, kitchen or closet shall communicate with either a separate or general warming canal. Fresh air shall come in without warming.

(15) Degree of illumination: The lighted surface in living rooms shall be not less than one-tenth of the area of the floor.

(16) All the rooms, kitchen and pantry shall have direct light; the rest of the premises may be illuminated by reflection.

(17) Maximum depth of living-room, 6.5 metres.

(18) Maximum height of room, 2.85 metres; in garret rooms, 2.5 metres, providing that the lowest part shall not be less than 1.65 metres.

(19) Minimum floor-space for each living-room, 10 square metres.

(20) Minimum floor-space in bedroom intended for more than one person, 6.75 square metres for each person.

6.—THE PRIZES.

For the relatively best projects the following prizes will be awarded on each type of house separately:—

	(a)	(b)	(c)
1st	Roubles 2,000	2,000	2,500
2nd	1,500	1,500	2,000
3rd	750	750	1,000
4th	500	500	750
5th	400	400	500

It is not obligatory for contestants to cover all three types.

The prize-projects shall become the property of the Moscow Soviet.

The Moscow Soviet reserves the right of acquiring the unprized projects at the price of 200 roubles per project.

Sending in date, October 15, 1925.

7.—CONTEST JUDGES.

From the Moscow Soviet—Gordeyev.

From the Provincial Planning Commission—Folbaum.

From the Moscow Real Estate Administration—Popov.

From the Moscow Union of Co-operative Buildings Societies—Matveyev.

From the Moscow Provincial Council of Trade Unions—Pavlov.

From the Provincial Branch of Building Workers' Union—Naidenov.

From the office of the Provincial Engineer—Mamatov, Mashkov and Meisner.

From the Permanent Technical Commission of Moscow Workers' and Peasants' Inspection—Yegerev.

From the Moscow Association of Architects—Barkhin.

From the Association of Civil Engineers—Dubrovskoy.

From the Moscow Department of Health—Katz.

From the Moscow State Building Office—Kryukov, and the professors: Chaplin, Prokofyev, Velikhov, Serk, Lolleit and architect Zinler.

THE PRÆSIDIUM OF THE MOSCOW SOVIET OF WORKERS, PEASANTS AND RED-ARMY DEPUTIES.

Correspondence.

Relation in Art.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Allow me to thank you for inserting a notice of "Relation in Art" in your number of July 31st. Your reviewer accuses me of stringing words together, "each one of which are (is?) essential" to my meaning. Certainly. Is not this the way to write upon philosophical subjects? I have also tried to pay attention to phrase rhythm . . . within the limits of my powers. A printed page cannot "call up to the mind a series of vivid pictures" when the matter treated is abstract ideas which in their essence are not to be visualised. This is a difficulty inherent to the matter treated, as Descartes pointed out in his famous reply to Gassendi. One cannot treat an advanced subject in an elementary way. The matter of "The Way to Sketch" being elementary, I have been able to treat it more simply. The review quotes some lines from p. 286 of "Relation in Art." As quoted I,

too, fail to understand them. "Even in the tints . . ." runs the quotation, which continues meaningless. The real text is: "Even in the hints of arrangement that he (Whistler) took from Japan, he has only been able to use such parts of them as are consistent with that illusion of Nature, to which he is so closely bound, which is so abhorred in Japan." But why isolate such a phrase from its immediate surroundings, which explain its meaning? May I ask you to insert this correction of an error which may easily prove harmful to the book?

Yours truly,

August 10, 1925.

VERNON BLAKE.

[We regret the printer's error referred to, which escaped notice.—Ed.]

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

AUGUST 21, 1875.

THE CASTLE, BLARNEY.

This new mansion has just been completed for Sir George C. Colthurst, Bart.; it is built of the light blue hammer-dressed limestone of the demesne, with Glasgow stone dressings to doors and window opes, gables, etc.; the slates are green Cumberland (a combination that produces a very pleasing effect). The new building is situated within about three hundred yards of the historical old "Blarney Castle," and from the oriel window in our illustration the celebrated "Kissing Stone" can be seen. The principal entrance is as shown on the north-east, and leads, by a wide flight of Portland stone steps, through the vestibule to the staircase hall (which is central and lit from the top); off this hall are grouped dining-room, drawing-room, morning-room, library, billiard-room, own room, etc. The next floor contains the principal bedrooms and dressing-rooms, boudoirs, etc., which are entered off a handsome arcaded gallery, with timber roof supported on walnut pilasters; on the top floor are bedrooms for the family, female servants, etc. The kitchen and household offices and men-servants' bedrooms are on the basement floor, which is all above ground. The Castle is in the Scottish Baronial style, and designed with a view to defence if necessary.

The works have been carried out by the Messrs. Dixon, of Belfast, builders, under the superintendence of, and from the designs by, Mr. John Lanyon, F.I.B.A., Dublin and Belfast.

ANDOVER.—Hampshire Education Committee have voted £300 for the equipment of Wykeham House for the purposes of an hostel in connection with the new secondary school at Andover.

BRIGHTON.—At Brighton Corporation a letter was received from Mr. S. G. Garrett on behalf of the Panel of Architects stating that up to the present the ceilings and lath partitions in the houses on the Queen's Park site have been plastered two-coat work, in conformity with the standard set by the Ministry of Health; that in practice this is not found to be satisfactory, and that the contractors have written suggesting that three-coat work should be used in the remaining 140 to 150 houses at an extra cost of £4 5s. per house and offering to bear half of such cost provided the Corporation will pay the balance of £2 2s.6d. per house. The Panel of Architects were authorised to accept the offer.

DORCHESTER.—The Corporation have passed plans for alterations and additions at the county offices of the Dorset County Council.—Messrs. Harding and Son are to extend their premises in Great Western Road.

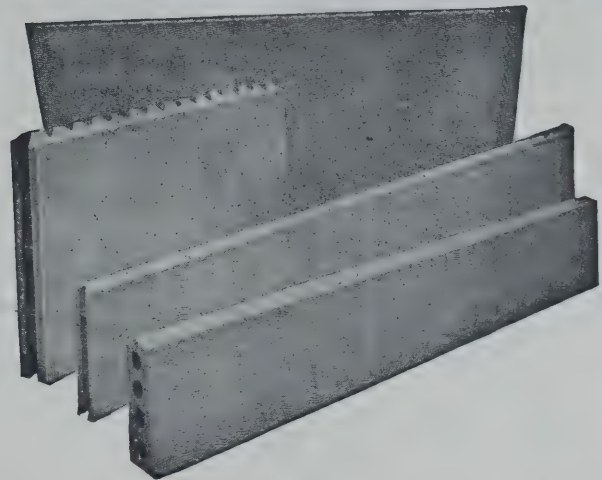
DOUGLAS (I.-o.-M.).—Mr. J. E. Teare, architect, has prepared plans for 18 council houses on the Hills estate.—Extensions at Villa Marina are to be considered at the end of the season.—The Technical College, Mona Road, is to be enlarged.—It is proposed to widen the Promenade to Regent Street.—A scheme for sewerage the Spring Valley district is under consideration.—Plans passed: Houses, Hutchinson Square for Mr. F. Callow; additions to buildings, The Lake, for the Douglas Steam Saw Mills Co., Ltd.; church and premises corner of Hilliary Road and Woodbourne Road, for Christian Science Church trustees.

EDWINSTOWE.—Notts County Education Committee are seeking permission to borrow £22,000 for the erection of an elementary school at Edwinstowe.

EWELL.—Surrey Education Committee has acquired a site at Fairview Road for the erection of a central school for the districts of Ewell and Epsom.

FIRBECK.—In connection with the proposed construction of a bridge on the Workop-Ballby main road, over the railway to Firbeck Colliery, the L.N.E.R. suggest that they are only liable for a bridge 35 feet wide, but will make it 50 feet if the Notts County Council will pay the extra cost of £2,500.

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The Paris Decorative Arts and Industries Exhibition has familiarised the Parisian with many curious and whimsical conceptions in the domains of decoration and architecture, and with a conflict of theories and teachings that often entertain when they fail to enlighten.

It frequently happens that the less important manifestations of originality, that stand out from amidst such groupings of schools and styles, attract an attention denied to more eminent examples of sound talent. A noble simplicity of line, a happy adaptation of ornament to the general character and destination of a structure, escape the notice of eyes entranced before the latest atrocities in Russian cubism or some tower of the "Babel" building art.

In such an atmosphere, saturated with the mania for "modernity," it is not astonishing that even edifices still at the stage of suggestion impose themselves on imaginations by their novelty and are seriously and sedately discussed! Amongst the least foolish of these fabrics (for there are many!) must be counted the project of Herr Frederic Kiesler, of Vienna, who is in charge of one of the Austrian sections at the Grand-Palais. Herr Kiesler is an architect both literally and figuratively; he only modestly claims to be an unpretentious member of the profession, but he is also a constructor of real air castles and a designer of garden cities—in which the gardens alone are on the ground.

The atmospheric architecture of which Herr Kiesler professes to be the pioneer is inspired by the idea that the habitation of the hour is an anachronism. In these days of airships the highest and handsomest house—even the skyscraper soaring in an endless series of storeys—is only relatively more advanced than a cave dwelling, being a sort of savage survival in a world of wireless and aviation. A people otherwise passionately progressive is content to bury itself in blocks, or crib, cabin and confine itself like mites in a cheese. Lungs longing for abundant air and eyes eager for a luxury of light are choked and blinded in living tombs. And all because their owners cannot, or will not, see that the open country can be made to teem with healthily housed populations, without invading an inch of cultivable soil. "Back to the land" is possible, in short, without ever quitting the town!

The skyscraper as a solution for urban congestion is patently the merest makeshift. The superposition of storeys has a limit even in audacious America. The so-called "greater" capitals are rapidly overtaken by the evils experienced in the lesser. It is time, therefore, for mankind to radically remove them by an intelligent utilisation of immense aerial spaces.

In this age of automobiles, avions, electric trains, etc., distance is practically abolished. Men need no longer live under the conditions imposed on generations whose means of locomotion were limited to their legs. The lift has completed the mechanism which renders it possible to disperse the huge modern metropolis—replacing it by small agglomerations scattered over the surface of the globe—and to hang houses at a height of 10 to 50 yards above the level of the soil.

Hollow pillars, enclosing elevators and the various urban supply pipes, could be connected by "bridges" on which the aerial homes would be reared. The latter would be light constructions of iron and glass, hygienically bathing in light and air and with tiny terraces and gardens ignoring the dirt and dust in which wallow the denizens of even the most select "fashionable quarters." A more ingenious and profitable use of metals will be essential to the perfect realisation of this plan; it will become possible when, under the stress of necessity, the occidental artisan will achieve the adroitness of the Japanese craftsman in the working of wood.

Herr Kiesler, indeed—for the maturity of his schemes—counts with confidence on the evolutionary adaptation of means to ends. Necessity, which imposes the design, will engender such modifications of materials as are indispensable to the builder of the aerial abodes. He has impatiently refused to discuss the decoration question, which those who had come to visit an industrial arts exhibition not unnaturally deemed to be pertinent. The "fashion"—the cut and style—of boots and clothes, Herr Kiesler declared, was not urgent in primitive civilisations. Analogously, the style of the new structures permitted of a prolonged postponement. First construct your house and then decorate it.

Though avowedly an architect, Herr Kiesler baptises his buildings: the creations of "Counter Architecture"! His aerial towns, perched on appropriate Eiffel Towers, look down on fields and forests and means of transport, with routes logically traced at last in straight lines. Airships sail in and out amongst the lofty pillars of his plans; canals and railways unroll themselves in smokeless and horseless paths far below the bases of the



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Let not the reader imagine that these aerial cities are pure pleasantries. Herr Kiesler is deadly in earnest. He has been interviewed by journalists who do *not* joke, and has made to them declarations, such as the following, of which M. André Guérin, of the "Oeuvre" was the recipient:

"This is not an attempt to formulate a new and unpublished scheme of construction. In reality, in this age of aviation, one can no longer build otherwise. A stupid (*sic*) art has too long riveted us to the ground and condemned us to a diminished existence. Whether we like it or not, we, as architects, will be compelled to respond exclusively to the imperative injunctions of our time. The Americans are already pursuing this path, and if Ford wants to build his famous capital on the Mississippi he will be compelled to keep step with the modern movement."

M. Guérin irreverently evokes negro villages, with houses hung in trees, when picturing the villas perched on the lift-posts of this modern high life upstairs. Herr Kiesler, unruffled by such comparisons, continues to expound with earnestness and enthusiasm his "counter architecture." He is honestly convinced that the earth in future can only be rendered hygienically habitable by stepping Heavenwards, and that the "homes for heroes," promised during the war by fabulist Prime Ministers, will one day or another be realised on aerial allotments.

W. W. O'MAHONY.

General News.

ALDERSHOT.—Hampshire Education Committee are to borrow £3,550 for the provision of temporary school buildings for the Aldershot secondary school.

GUILDFORD.—Surrey County Council are to lay out the New Inn Farm, Guildford, for small holdings, and two cottages are to be erected at a cost of £1,300.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Durham County Education Committee are negotiating for a site at Houghton-le-Spring for the erection of an elementary school.

LUDWORTH.—Plans for an elementary school at Ludworth are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

MITCHAM.—The Board of Education have approved of a site at Mitcham for the erection of a secondary school by the Surrey County Council.

MITCHAM.—Working drawings of the proposed central school at Mitcham to be erected by the Surrey Education Committee have been approved by the Board of Education, the revised estimate of the cost now being £38,965.

PAIGNTON.—The Urban District Council are seeking sanction for a loan of £71,000 for waterworks purposes.—The Parochial Church Council have a scheme for the erection of a church in the St. Michael's area.—A water main is to be laid at a cost of £520 to Elm Park, Holloway Hill, where over one hundred houses are to be erected by Messrs. Maunder and Son.—A main is also to be laid at a cost of £430 to the Frimley Lane district, where houses are to be erected.—Mr. E. H. Ladbury has been appointed as architect for two houses and a store to be erected at Goodrington.—The Council are seeking sanction to borrow £390 for the erection of shelters on the Preston promenade.—Plans passed: 16 houses, Collen End, for Messrs. Maunder & Son; 4 houses, Primley Lane, for Mr. W. Clarke; 3 houses, off Clennon Park, for Mr. S. J. Webber; 80 houses at Clennon Valley, for Mr. H. Whitley.

RAYNES PARK.—Surrey Education Committee are in negotiation for a site in the vicinity of Raynes Park Golf Clubhouse for the erection of a school to replace the Ashton Road temporary school and for future developments.

STRET福德.—The Education Committee have obtained a site at Longford Park for an open-air school.—The Urban District Council have decided to erect electricity sub-stations at Gorse Hill and Old Trafford.—The Council are to proceed with the widening of Old Trafford Road.—Mr. Percy Howard is acting as hon. architect for alterations proposed at the Basford House Hospital.—Plans passed: Extensions bottling stores, Warwick Road North, for Aerowatta Direct Supply Co., Ltd.; test house, Trafford Park, for Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd.; 24 houses and one shop Radstock Road, for Mr. J. W. Maunders; hall, 502, Stretford Road, for Mrs. M. Roberts.

TRURO.—The Corporation have decided to give the subsidy to the Great Western Railway (Truro) Housing Society for 36 houses proposed to be erected.—Messrs. Cowill, Drewitt & Wheatley have prepared a scheme for the development of building land at Green Lane and Falmouth Road.—H.M. Office of Works are purchasing the property in Pydar Street and High Cross now occupied by the Post Office, and rebuilding is under consideration.

USWORTH.—Arrangements have been made by the Durham County Education Committee for the purchase of a site at Usworth Colliery for the erection of an elementary school.

WAKEFIELD.—The Housing Committee are considering the question of erecting further houses by direct labour.—Ten houses are to be built to rehouse families displaced by the Pincheon Street improvement scheme.—The Corporation have arranged with Mr. Harold Watson, architect of Clayton Hospital, regarding a widening at Northgate by the nurses' home.—The city surveyor is to undertake the architectural work in connection with the extension of the buildings of the Technical School.—A scheme is to be prepared for works at Thornes Park, including six hard tennis courts, paddling pool, etc.—Plans passed: Hotel, Portobello Road, for the People's Refreshment House Association, Ltd.; 4 houses, Milnthorpe Crescent, for Mr. W. H. Watson; additions to premises, Northgate, for Messrs. Bell & Kay, on behalf of Messrs. J. Taylor & Sons; additions to Crowthers Vaults, Westmoreland Street, for Mr. F. Simpson, on behalf of Messrs. Beverley Bros.; additions to warehouse, Ings Road, for Mr. H. Dobson, on behalf of Messrs. W. Saville & Sons; church corner of Barnsley Road and Portobello Road, for Mr. W. H. H. Martin, on behalf of Rev. J. Ratcliffe; 7 houses, George Street, for Mr. J. R. Lister.

WOKING.—The Urban District Council has interviewed the Triangular Construction Co. and Mr. Jones with reference to their tenders for the erection of cottages at Westfield, Kirby Road and Knaphill. Mr. Jones is prepared to accept a contract for 52 houses at Westfield for £25,237 and the Triangular Construction Co. for six pairs at Knaphill and two pairs of flats at Kirby Road at £17,110. These figures have been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval; and Mr. W. A. Carter, architect, of Petersfield, is negotiating with the Council regarding a sewer in Broomhill Lane to facilitate the development of the Horsell building estate.—Plans passed: 5 bungalows, Westfield Road, for Mr. E. Ricks; hall, Clarence Avenue, for Woking Labour Party; workmen's dwellings of wood construction, Whapshot Farm, for Mr. J. M. Rowland.

Trade Notes.

Mr. Ormerod Mitchell has now taken up his position as general manager of The Ransome Machinery Co. (1920), Ltd.

Mr. Charles Marques, of Brimsdown, Middlesex, concrete specialist and structural engineer, informs us that he is no longer a director of Concrete Manufacturers, No. 1, London, Ltd.

A smart little folder under the heading "Many Inventions, Topical and Typical," tells us that Messrs. King's Patent Agency, Ltd., of 146a, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4 (phone Central 682), are sending their free "Patent" handbook to all applicants. Ideas are not safe until they are patented, and provisional protection of this kind will be found invaluable in many cases.

The revival of an old-established firm is at all times pleasant to record. The wonderful revival and continued growing success of the firm of Eastwoods, Ltd., is a matter of considerable interest to the building industries. The directors and the managing director and staff are to be congratulated on the marked success of their efforts during the past year's trading. From the chairman's remarks at their fifth annual meeting the directors look forward with confidence to the future and have every reason to anticipate a still further improvement from actual orders in hand for the present year. The firm is not only the largest firm of builders' merchants in the country, but are brickmakers, and have recently, as will be remembered, brought out a new company under the name of Eastwood Cement, Ltd., for the purpose of the manufacture of Portland cement.

The will has been proved at £12,217 of the late Mr. Stephen Ernest Smith, architect, of Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.

The will has been proved at £110,603, of the late Mr. Vincent Craig, J.P., F.R.I.B.A., elder brother of Sir James Craig, Prime Minister of Northern Ireland.

The Public Hall and Winter Garden at Wallsend, erected from the designs of Messrs. Frank Caws, Steel and Cains, architects, Sunderland, to the memory of the employees of Messrs. Swan, Hunter & Wigham-Richardson, who served in the Great War, was opened last Saturday afternoon. General Sir Charles Harrington unveiled the memorial to the dead, and the hall was dedicated by the Rev. A. F. E. Jarvis, Chaplain-General to the Forces.

In our paragraph *re* Crown Site Stores for Messrs. John Barker & Co., Ltd., Kensington High Street, we omitted to mention in our list of sub-contractors the name of the firm of Arthur L. Gibson & Co., Ltd., who are supplying 136 Kinnear patent steel rolling shutters, made to the L.C.C. requirements for fire protection in division walls, staircase, and lift lobbies, etc.

CONTENTS.

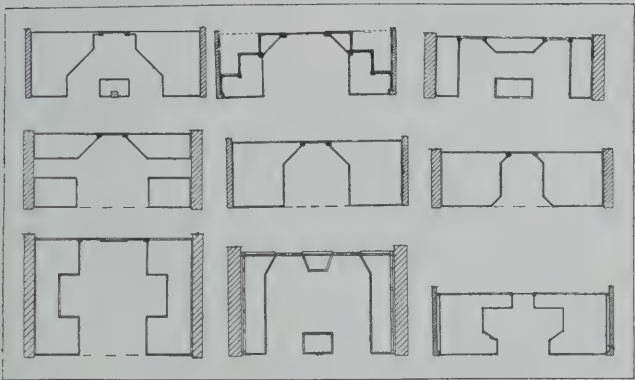
Shop Fronts	PAGE 141	New Law of Property Act, 1925	PAGE 147
Percentages and Services Rendered	143	A Woman Architect Speaks Her Mind	150
Eclecticism in Architecture	144	Building Progress in London	152
Picturesque Corners of Savoy	145	General News	154

Shop Fronts.

A current number of the "Architectural Forum" gives some very interesting examples of recessed shop fronts from which we reproduce some illustrations. We may define our views on the subject by saying that the best solution of the subject from a purely architectural standpoint is one which is not likely to be adopted at any rate for many years.

That solution would involve the recognition of the fact that the architectural appearance of our streets and not the competitive advantage of the individual trader is the paramount consideration.

If we admit this it seems to us to follow that no treatment of a street frontage considered as a design in brick and stone can really be satisfactory unless its lines are harmonious and its masses evenly distributed. We might reasonably be satisfied with a range of great arches which could carry the superstructure or a range of piers and lintols serving the same purpose. Moreover, it is usually now considered that windows look best if they are divided up by bars, heavy or light as the case may be, but if such a treatment is allowed over a shop fascia but not under, the contrast is too startling to be pleasing. We have heard it argued that shop awnings divide a building into two distinct and separated parts neither of which disturbs the other, but this is only true during certain weather and cannot be regarded as a solution of the question.



TYPES OF SHOP FRONTS.

But as it is evident that the architectural appearance of our shopping quarters is a matter of secondary and not primary importance to the average shopkeeper, and as no public authority exists with sufficient power or inclination to exert power, it follows that the paramount consideration will be the interest, real or imaginary, of the individual shopkeeper, and the architect must perforce confine himself to the smaller problem set, which is to devise the best means by which an individual shop, considered without too much reference to the superstructure, can be made most attractive, and the means whereby a frontage, which is frequently narrow, may be developed so as to give the utmost possible amount of window space.



THE BLUM STORE, PHILADELPHIA.
F. E. HAHN & S. B. BAYLINSON, Architects.

The examples we illustrate are all good judged from this standpoint and considered on their own merits are pleasing examples of design. They are rightly shown without the superstructure, for a little imagination will convince us that they are most pleasing when considered as entire compositions and not as parts of a greater whole. Two of the Philadelphia fronts are, it is true, really parts of an architectural composition, but the others are examples of the suitable disposition of a space designed for a given purpose. One example we show—that of a shoe shop in East 42nd Street, New York—shows the excellent effect of a uniform division into squares instead of the usual sheets of plate glass, but here again the shopkeeper's name on the fascia over is completely unarchitectural and deprives the composition of a proper sense of scale.



BAINS' LUGGAGE SHOP, PHILADELPHIA.
F. E. HAHN & S. B. BAYLINSON, Architects.

An argument for the use of the dividing bars is that the slight diversity of setting often gives a window a suggestion of brilliancy which is not produced by a perfectly even sheet of plate glass, while in addition



THE ISLAND DISPLAY CASE, UNARCHITECTURAL, BUT PRACTICALLY GOOD.



SHOP FRONT, EAST 42 STREET. R. H. SMYTHE, Architect.

the subdivisions increase the apparent effect of size of the whole front without really detracting from the visibility of the goods displayed. Shopfitting from a constructive standpoint has become a fine art, and our leading shopfitting firms are able to carry out the most intricate designs given them in an almost perfect manner. Wood, glass and metal have never before been more carefully worked or as well employed in conjunction, and no designer need feel any fear that feats of difficult detail will prove beyond the capacity of the manufacturing shopfitting firms; but there is a great field open for architectural treatment and contrivance, and one which will repay study.

The shop front may, in skilful hands, suggest the features of a drawing room or boudoir; it may have great individual character suggesting the trade of its

owner, and it may arouse curiosity alike by what it shows and what it conceals. The dressing of shop windows is now studied, and they are ceasing to be the mere assemblage of a number of samples thrown almost pell-mell together without taste or design. The window of a good shop may have much of the interest of a picture or a carefully arranged museum, and where this is the case we are in a fair way to add to the beauty of a town by tasteful display at once pleasing and calculated to be commercially valuable.

Though we consider the architect often has to work under somewhat difficult limitations, there is a great field for his invention and contrivance in even the smallest and most restricted of shop fronts.

Our Illustrations.

THE CLOISTERS, WINCHESTER. From an Etching by HUGH FRASER.

DESIGN FOR MEMORIAL TO THE MISSING, THE MENIN GATE, YPRES. SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD, R.A., Architect.

Notes and Comments.

The Problem of Church Extension.

It is frequently most difficult to devise satisfactory methods of enlarging a church without destroying the character of the existing structure. In the case of the Catholic Church of St. Mary, Loughborough, which is to be reopened shortly, the architect has effected his object by building a new nave at right angles to the old church, which forms a chancel and two side bays of the completed whole. Such a treatment may be very effective if carried out ably, but it is a cutting of the Gordian knot involving a radical change of axis. If the original church was correctly oriented the new church must now face north and south. However, in town buildings the principle of orientation frequently has to go by the board, and it is possible, as time goes on, that it will be less and less regarded as an essential.

It is frequently a stumbling block on a chosen site involving the placing of a church in a position where it is both more expensive to build and less effective than it would be were the architect to be free in his choice. But undoubtedly both tradition and custom is strong, and it may be that the east and west position of a church may remain in the future as in the past, an almost fixed requirement for the designer.

The L.C.C. and Wooden Houses.

According to reports, it would seem that there is a strong possibility that a part of the London County Council's project of building wooden houses will be effected by entire transportation of foreign-made houses. Col. Levita, in conjunction with the L.C.C. architect and engineer, is

preparing a report on the suitability of wooden houses for London, a subject he has been investigating in Norway, and Norwegian representatives in London declare that there are firms in Norway who can immediately produce wooden houses in sections and in large numbers, and that any difficulty could be met by a combination of firms working in conjunction. The fire risks are partly obviated in Norway by the introduction of a proportion of brick houses in order to confine the fires which may occur within definite and small areas.

We should be sorry to see the importation of many foreign-made houses for two reasons: one is that such houses, though suitable in appearance for their own country, are alien when erected here, and the other that it is a grave reflection that in a country where unemployment has reached enormous figures it should be found necessary to import ready-made buildings rather than to benefit the people of the country by erecting buildings. But this is but one of many examples of the manner in which the restrictive policy of the Unions is mitigating against the commercial interests of the nation and the welfare of the people.

The Site for the Welsh National Memorial.

We are glad that the Cardiff City Council, acting on the advice of the architects of the Municipal Buildings and Museum, have refused to sanction the erection of the Welsh National Museum on the circular plot in front of those buildings. The erection of any building on the circular plot would certainly have prejudicially affected the appear-

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THE ARCHITECT, AUGUST 28th, 1925.





"INK-PHOTO" W. BROWN & CO. LTD LONDON, E.C.3.

THE CLOISTERS, WINCHESTER.

FROM ETCHING BY A. HUGH FISHER.

EXHIBITED AT THE GREATOREX GALLERIES.

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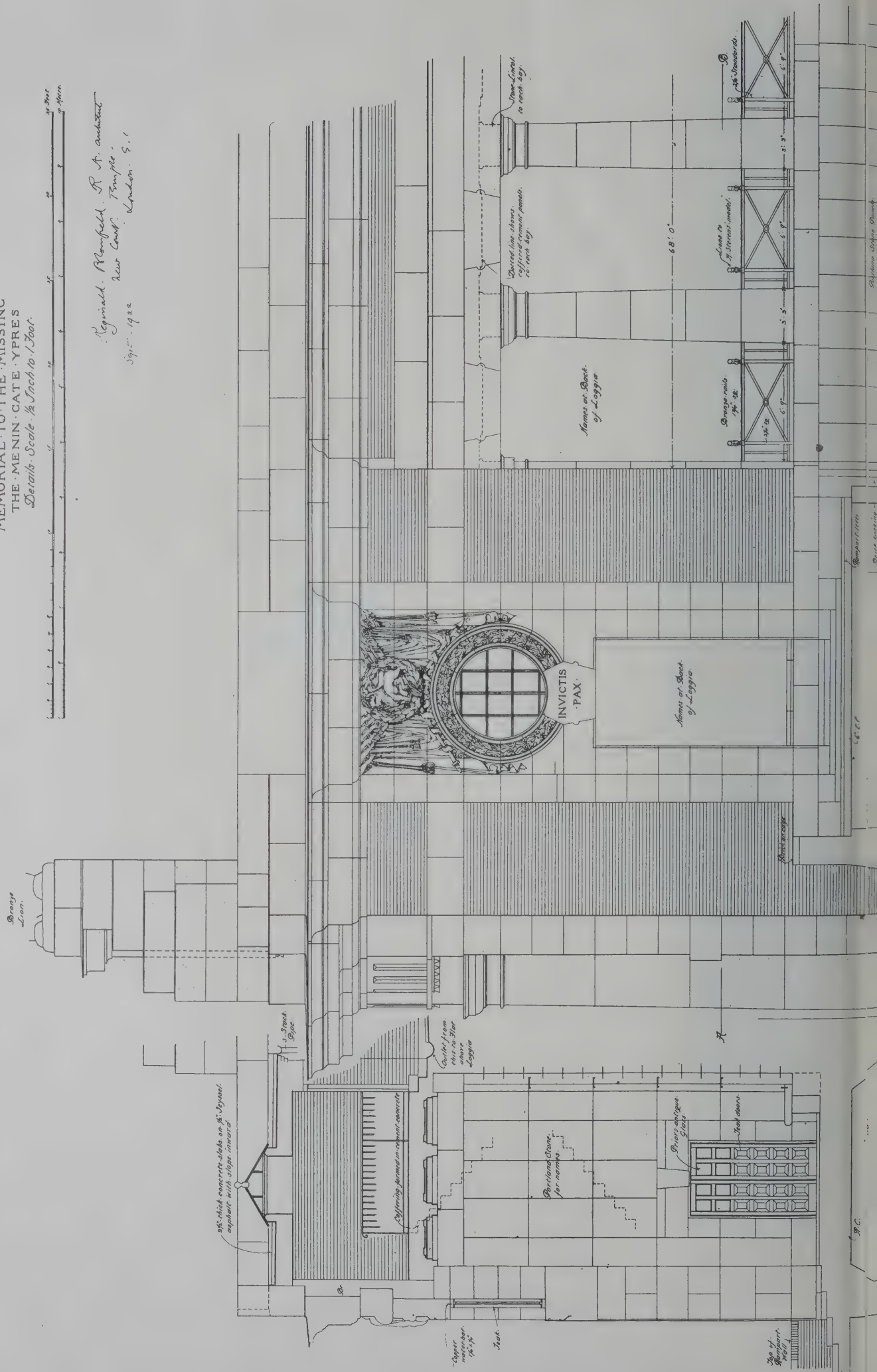
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MEMORIAL TO THE MISSING
THE MENIN CATAPYRES
Details: Scale 1/2 Inch to 1 Foot.

Details. Scale. 1/2 Inch. to 1 Foot.



Reginald. Blomfield. R. A. architect
New Court. Temple.
London. S. 1



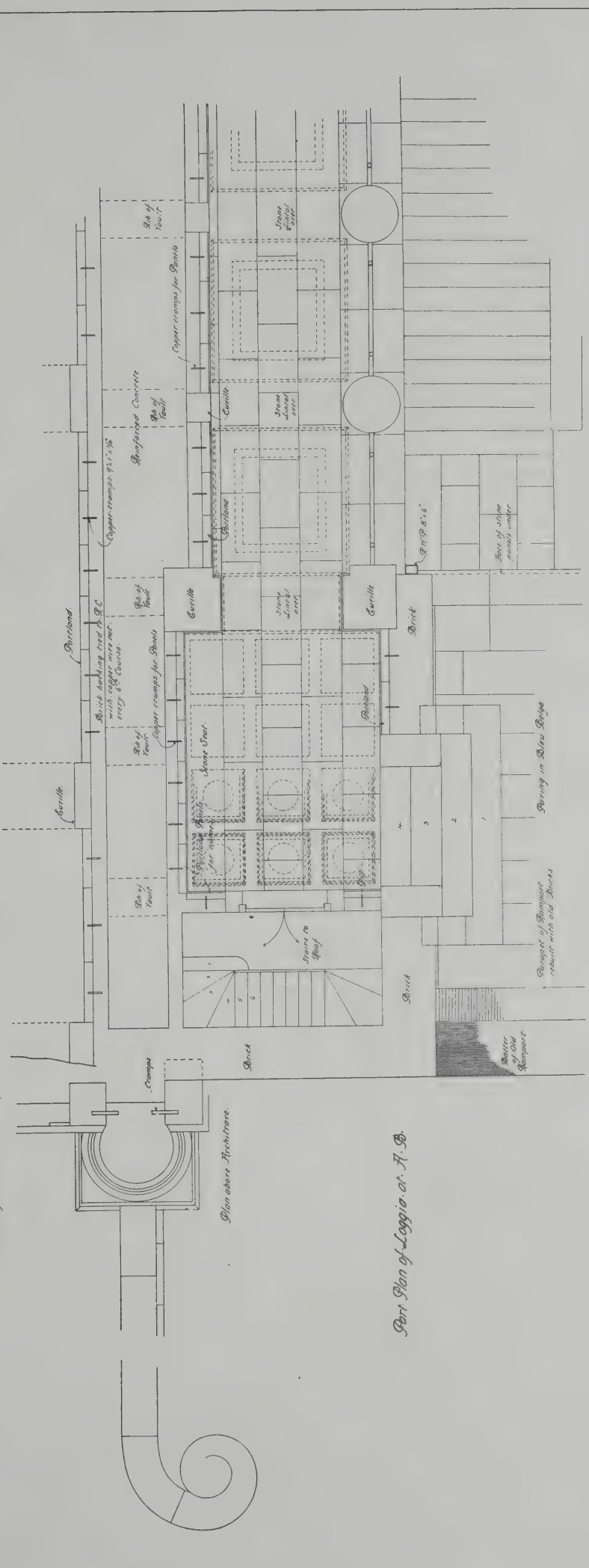
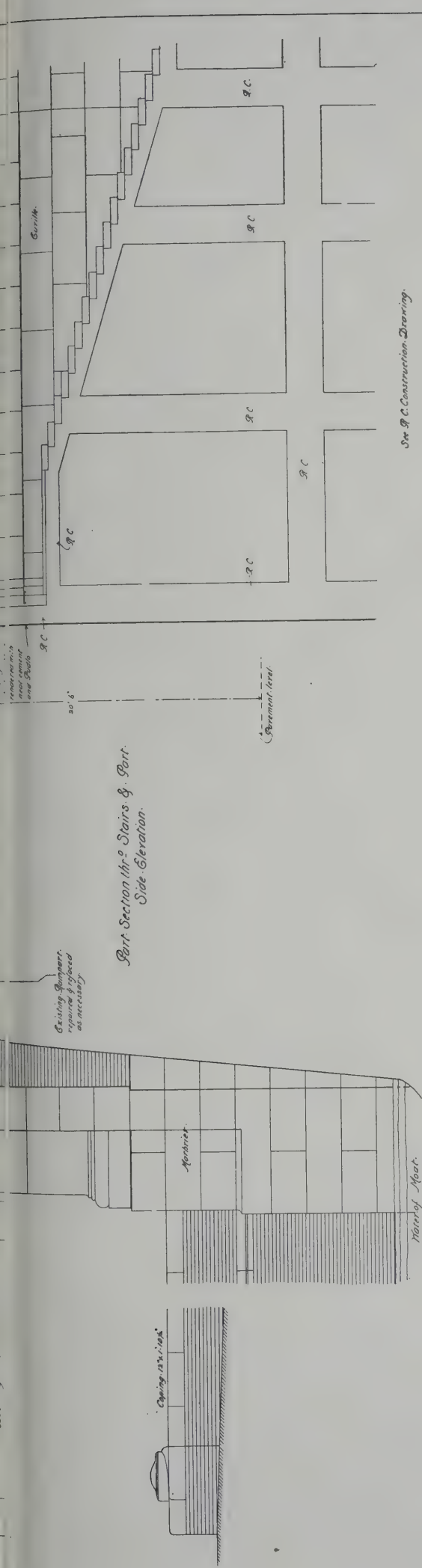
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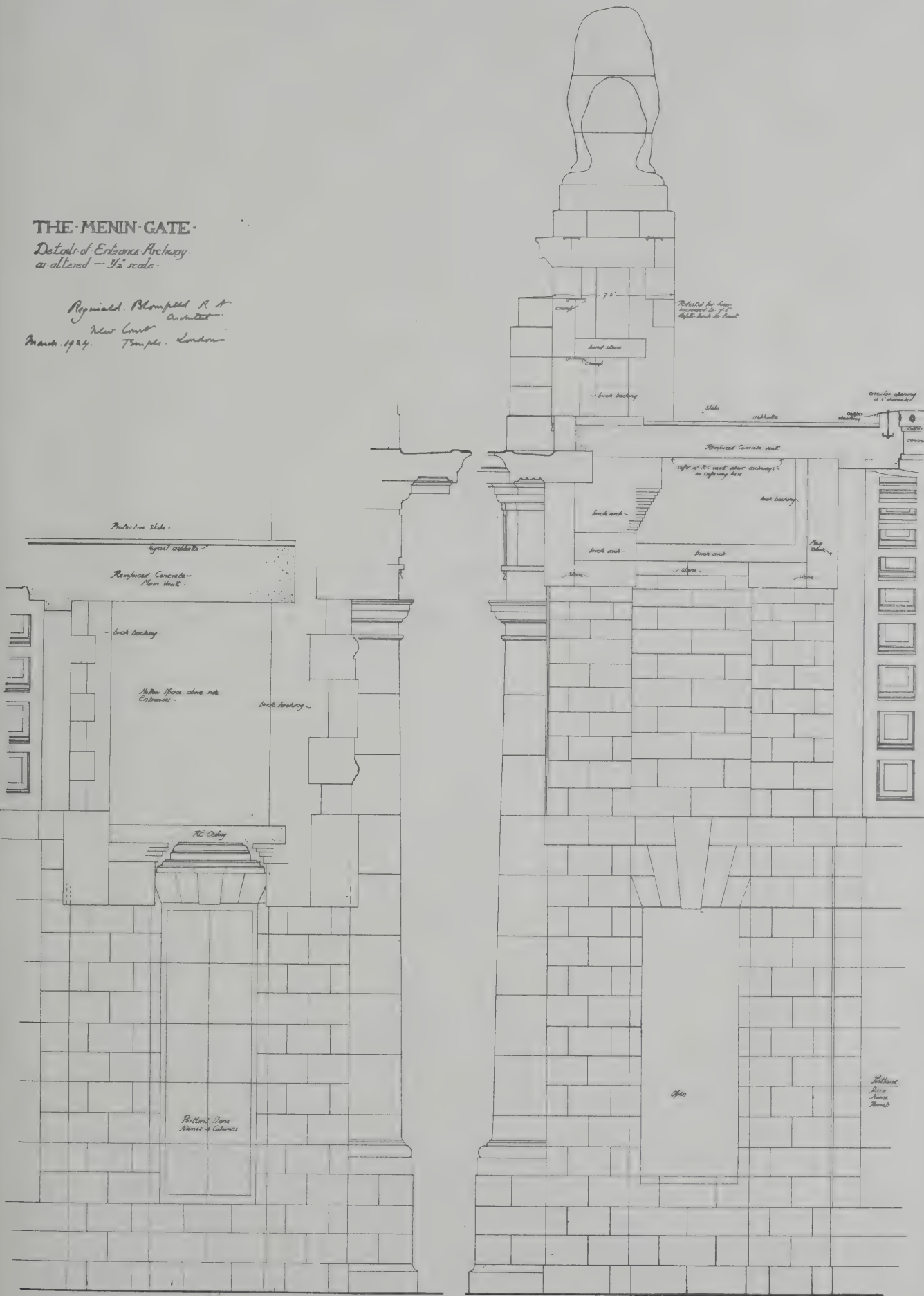


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THE MENIN GATE.

Details of Entrance Archway.
as altered - 1/2" scale.

Reginald. Blomfield R.A.
Architect.
New Court
March 1924. Temple, London



Section on A.B. Side Arch

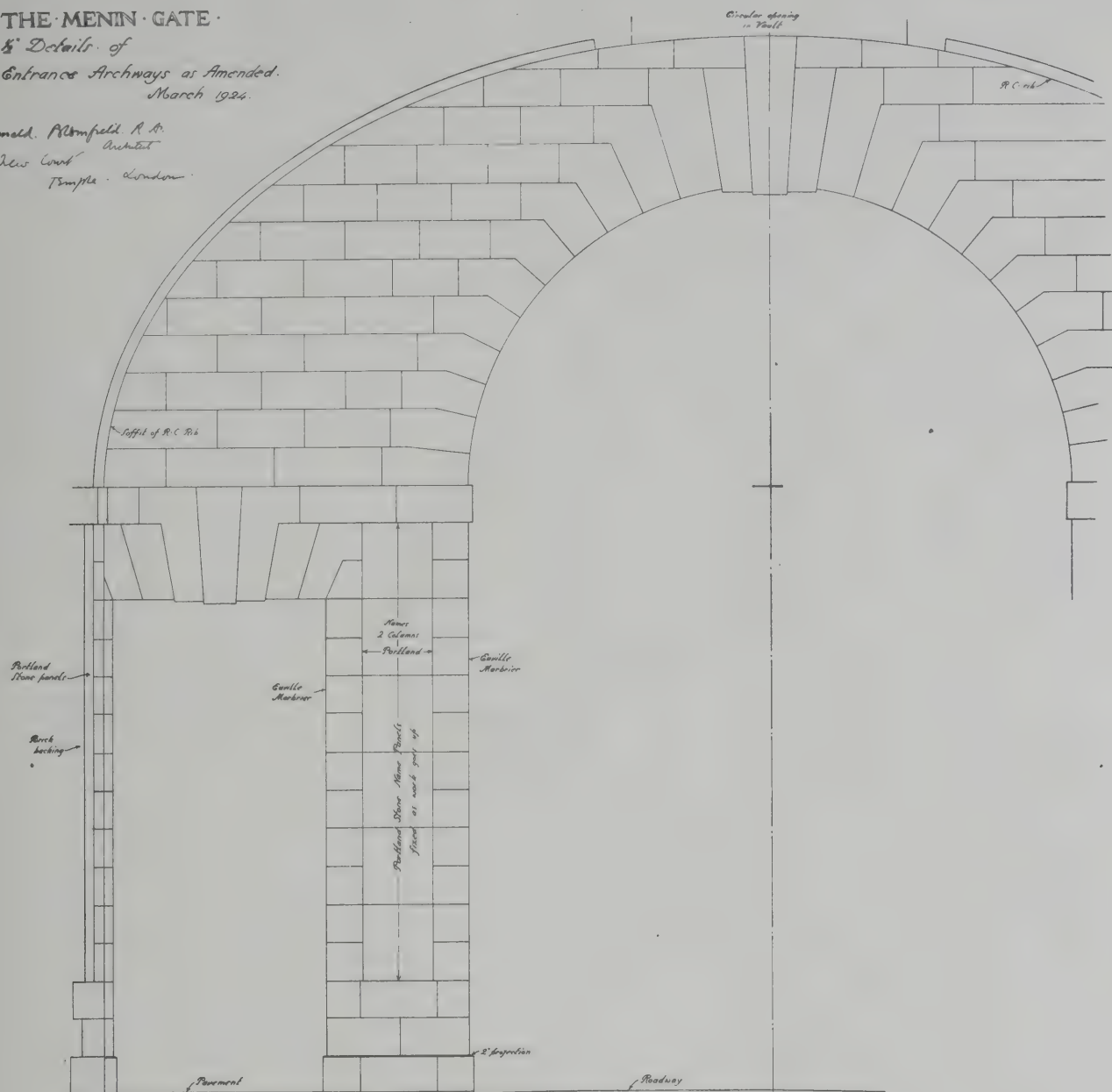
Section on C.D. Central Arch

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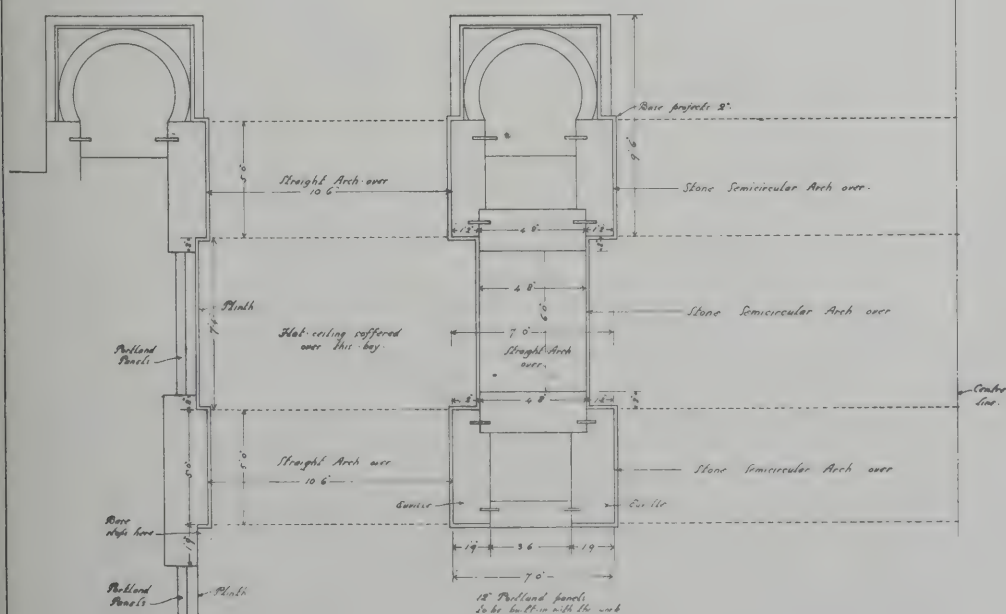
46

THE MENIN GATE.
Part Details of
 Entrance Archways as Amended.
 March 1924.

Reginald Blomfield R.A.
 Architect
 New Court
 Temple, London.



Part. Int'l. Elevation of End Archways.



Plan above Base of Columns.

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ance of the Municipal Buildings and Museum. The Memorial Committee then approached Lord Bute with a request that he should allow the erection of the memorial on the Priory Site but he refused to do so, and it has now been arranged that the memorial shall be erected in the Alexandra Gardens. The memorial is to be commenced shortly and it is hoped will be completed in the late summer of 1926. We are glad to record the fact that far greater care is now taken in the selection of the sites for special buildings, an outcome of the greater interest in and understanding of the problems of town planning, a knowledge and understanding of which is more and more necessary as time goes on.

The Rent of Flats.

We are told that there is evidence of a heavy slump in the rents of converted houses and flats of comparatively small size, and that many are now vacant owing to these reasons. It is said that flats rented at from £120 to £150 are being reduced to £110 and £100, as compared with pre-war rentals of £70 and £80 for similar accommodation. If this be so it seems to us that the provision of flats of moderate size is likely to come to a standstill, as the cost of conversion and building shows no signs of being sensibly diminished as time goes on, and in addition the present rates on such buildings which fall on the landlord are abnormally heavy as compared with similar pre-war rates. All this may afford an additional argument for bringing down the wages of some of those who, like dustmen, are in sheltered occupations and yet are getting wages with which those of highly skilled artisans sometimes compare unfavourably. In addition to the landlord's present burdens we must not forget those included under Income Tax Schedule A! We all wish for cheaper living, but it is difficult to see how it is to come in existing circumstances.

A Trades' Training School in Liverpool.

The Liverpool Education Committee has now opened a new day school in Fontenoy Street, the classes of which will be attended by apprentices in the various sections of the building trade. The scheme, we are glad to note, has the enthusiastic support both of the employers and operatives' societies. The masters have undertaken to pay the fees of the apprentices they nominate and to pay them a full day's wage for every day they attend the school. During the last six months similar work has been undertaken at the Central Technical School in Byrom Street, with encouraging results. One hundred students have already been enrolled and it is expected the number will be made up to 400. The scheme provides six distinct courses, a general building course dealing with the industry as a whole, designed to prepare promising youths for positions of responsibility, and special courses in the separate crafts. For younger students and those needing more elementary teaching there will be a special preparatory course comprising education in English, arithmetic, mensuration, and plane and solid geometry, leading up to the student's special subject. We hope this admirable example will be followed elsewhere, as much good must arise from it.

Mount Pleasant Post Office.

Mount Pleasant Post Office will, it is said, be before long the world's largest and most efficient post office building. When completed, it will cover a site of 16 acres. A new reinforced concrete extension which occupies the site of Coldbath Fields Prison is approaching completion and part of it will be in use by next Christmas. When all is completed 1,000,000,000 letters and 50,000,000 parcels can be dealt with annually. The special tube for the conveyance of letters and parcels extends from Paddington to Whitechapel, with post office stations at various points, and this will be in use late next summer.

A two minutes' service on this tube will materially expedite the delivery of letters and, which is important, will enable the Post Office to do away with many vehicles now in use. The Mount Pleasant Office is a "wholesale" one at present, but a post office for the public will form a section of the new buildings which are being carried out.

Percentages and Services Rendered.

There is sometimes a question as to which we do not see eye to eye with those in authority, and one of such questions is the justice of charging extra fees when expert advice has to be consulted in relation to some building or other. We may take the case of a building which is largely made up of ferro-concrete work which the architect does not feel competent to design without an engineer's assistance, and which is for that reason relegated to an expert. Ordinarily the architect would make all drawings himself and be responsible for their correctness and sufficiency. But in the case of a ferro-concrete building such duties will be undertaken by an engineer and so the architect will be relieved automatically of a certain portion of his work, which will be lessened by the amount of such work. Either it can be demonstrated that the sum total of the work done for the employer is increased or complicated, in which case a greater percentage should be paid by the employer for the total services rendered or else the amount of those services remain the same, but the architect, because of his inability to cope with a certain method of construction is forced to obtain expert help. We may here remark that the architect who cannot readily design a certain building without the help of assistants has to pay those assistants for their services, but he does not in such cases ask the client to foot the bill but contents himself with what profit remains after paying for assistance. We believe the two cases are almost identical and should be so considered, not alone in justice to the client but in the architect's own interests.

If a client finds out that the special services he requires result in his having to pay for services rendered to the architect he will most likely wonder whether it is wise to employ him at all when he could presumably go direct to a man with special knowledge. And what applies to ferro-concrete construction may also apply to heating and ventilation, or a number of other engineering matters. Nor should it be forgotten that these matters usually occur in buildings of considerable size and relatively high cost and not in the simpler and smaller matters which make up much of the average architect's practice.

Sometimes a client, if he is fussy or nervous, may insist on an architect taking expert advice on some matter or other. If he does we should say he clearly ought to pay the fees of those called in, for he wants a second opinion and should pay for it.

The consultant who is called in medically has been quoted by those who claim that a client should pay for special services rendered by others than his architect, but the cases are not parallel. The consultant is not called in because medical duties are relegated to him, but in order to get a second opinion about the case in point. The true parallel would be the calling in of another architect to find what type of plan he would recommend for a site in question, a service, if required, for which the client should certainly pay. The medical consultant is consulted on very much broader issues than the specialist. Without the consultant's opinion a man's doctor would continue to prescribe for him and to watch his symptoms. But if the architect cannot calculate or design ferro-concrete, or cannot advise on certain definite sections included in his work, the job would be at a standstill; in other words, the architect would be incapable of completing what he had contracted to do for a fee based on the cost of the completed work. For these reasons, it seems clear to us that the architect should himself pay for any services required for the purposes of the design of a building he has undertaken. Some architects are able to cope directly with the engineering problems of a building, some are not, just as some architects will make every drawing themselves without the aid of assistance, while other find it better to employ and pay highly for adequate help.

But as a profession it seems to us that we shall do best in our own interests if we take on work which involves the special services of experts and pay their fees for the work they do, depending for our remuneration on the usual percentage payments charged on the cost of the whole work. By so doing we shall avoid giving the impression that some

particular building can only be satisfactorily carried out by the employment of a small committee rather than that of an architect alone.

Many men have to employ expert assistance either of a practical or artistic character, but it is far better that the client should attribute the whole result, and not a part of it alone, to the architect whom he has employed.

Eclecticism in Architecture.

By Frank Rutter.

I have read with deep interest, and no little profit, Mr. Arnold Whittick's persuasive article* in defence of Architectural Eclecticism, and by the courtesy of the Editor I am permitted to reply to that writer's stimulating criticism of a suggestion I made in an essay contributed to the "Edinburgh Review" last April.

My suggestion was that the attempt to unite Gothic vitality with Greek quiescence was an endeavour to reconcile irreconcilables. Mr. Whittick grants me that "no building can, at the same moment, be both perfectly quiet and perfectly energetic"; but he sees a "possibility of these two distinct forms gradually coming together, forsaking in the process something, it may be, of their distinctive characteristics, yet in their mingling creating something new and perhaps as beautiful as when they are apart."

Now I willingly admit that it is the privilege of the great artist to upset the theories which we critics laboriously construct from the works of his predecessors, nevertheless I cling to my notion—a notion shared by Sir Joshua Reynolds—that there are qualities in art which are irreconcilable, and I am tempted to go even further and express a doubt whether eclecticism has ever yet produced works of art of the highest order. But I am by no means sure whether eclecticism has quite the same meaning for Mr. Whittick and myself. By eclecticism in art I understand the mingling together of *distinctive characteristics* taken from various styles or schools. When characteristics have been forsaken to a degree that renders them no longer distinctive, then it may be argued that the result is not eclecticism but the creation of a new style. From the earliest times to the present day there has been a continuity in the evolution of art which, if pressed logically home, would almost justify us in regarding practically all art, *from the point of view of Form*, as being more or less eclectic; but since forms are used for the expression of ideas, when a new idea becomes dominant we are accustomed to accept the expression of this idea as amounting to a new style.

Consequently the kernel of my argument is, not so much that certain Forms are incompatible, as that certain Ideas are irreconcilable. Mr. Whittick speaks of the Renaissance as "the intermingling of Christianity with Greek culture," but it can hardly be denied that in that intermingling the "distinctive characteristics" of Christianity were forsaken. Granted that the world is the richer for the Renaissance, it is none the less permissible to maintain that not even St. Peter's at Rome is on quite the same level of achievement as the Parthenon, on the one hand, and—shall I say?—Amiens Cathedral on the other. The palaces of Venice are perhaps the best possible examples of buildings on the border line between definite eclecticism and the creation of a new style; the world is the richer for them, but again it may be asked whether they are inspired by ideas so noble as those expressed by pure Greek or pure Gothic architecture? Even among masterpieces we should endeavour to preserve some sense of proportion and consider relative values; and the most ardent enthusiast for Renaissance architecture can with difficulty resist coming to the conclusion that its palaces are more significant than its churches, in short, that it worked for the expression of temporal power far more than for the utterance of spiritual ideals.

In his admirable analysis of the essence of both Greek

and Gothic art, Mr. Whittick shrewdly observes that "the religious feeling of the average educated Greek was that of resignation to the thought that death is the end." With this he contrasts the "restless striving towards heaven" of the Gothic cathedral, expressing "the fervent worship of the God in heaven that, to the mediæval mind, existed somewhere above the ethereal blue." I fail altogether to perceive how any satisfaction could possibly result from an architecture which should give on the one hand a little expression to the thought that "death is the end," and on the other a little hint that human personality survives the grave.

Mr. Whittick admits that "Greek religious thought and Christianity have never been reconciled"; and consequently I submit that there can be no complete fusion of the essence of Greek and Gothic architecture. The forms of classic and Gothic architecture may be and have been mingled; but the ideas behind those forms are mutually exclusive and incompatible. Therefore, unless one idea or the other is allowed to become predominant, the intermingling of the forms is likely to result in a work characterised chiefly by confusion of thought. Hence my contention that in modern architecture either energy or quiescence must be dominant; they can never be co-equal. I do not seek, and have never sought, to deny that both may be present. We may be shown energy animating quiet, inert matter, or we may be presented with the spectacle of energy enchained and imprisoned by a monumental inertia. Possibly it is towards the expression of the latter that a new architectural style is being evolved.

I am not sufficiently familiar with Liverpool Cathedral to be competent to express an opinion whether it is to be regarded as a result of eclecticism or as the herald of a new architectural style; but when that structure is complete I venture to prophesy that, if it be more than skilful eclecticism, then it will be found that in the aspect of the whole *one idea* will be dominant, and that the Cathedral will be eloquent in the main either of the energy of an irresistible force, or else of the grandeur of an irremovable mass.

Preliminary Report on Internal Improvement Scheme for Consett.*

We have received a copy of the excellent report for the internal improvement of Consett, which is especially interesting as it is a typical mining town, and in the report Major R. Hardy Syms, F.S.I., M.S.A., has had to deal with the improvement of badly-built areas. The main purpose of the scheme is to show how the housing conditions of a large number of artisans and miners can be improved by the erection of a business and market centre to the town and by rehousing the dispersed population in healthier and more open surroundings. That these proposals are brought within the bounds of practical politics is largely due to the public-spirited attitude of the Consett Iron Co., Ltd., and the activities of the local council. In addition to the question of rehousing and outside the scope of the report, the detail point for consideration in the formation of the scheme are: 1. The construction of a traffic road from north-west to south-east. 2. Provision of a market place. 3. Provision of parking places or station motor buses and for private cars. 4. The arrangement of a site for a Roman Catholic Church and generally the creation of a business centre. How far such a scheme can be carried out in existing circumstances is uncertain, but its formulation and consideration must be of value.

*Preliminary Report on Internal Improvement Scheme for Consett by R. Hardy Syms, F.S.I., M.S.A., 3 Grays Inn Place, London, W.C. 7s. 6d. net.

MARLOW.—In regard to proposals for dealing with the bridge at Marlow, the Berkshire County Council, at the request of the Ministry of Transport, are preparing a plan of the site of the present bridge and approaches and it is intended to call a conference with the authorities concerned, including the Thames Conservancy Board.

* THE ARCHITECT, August 14, 1925.

Picturesque Corners of Savoy

3.—Annecy.

By H. A. J. LAMB, A.R.I.B.A.



ANNECY: MAIN ENTRANCE TO CHATEAU DE NEMOURS.

Anyone who has experienced the beauties of the Lake of Geneva and has not extended their journey some 27 miles due south from Geneva, which brings one to Annecy and its

picturesque lake, would do well to enjoy the charms which this part of the Savoy has to offer at the first opportunity.

Annecy, the chief town of the Haute Savoie, is magnificently situate at the north end of the lake which takes its name, and which in comparison with the Lake of Geneva is small indeed, being only 9 miles long and from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide.

Much of the past history of Annecy has been lost in antiquity, but there is ample evidence to show that the Romans built a large town in this district, no doubt being charmed by the climate and the beauty of the country around. Actually, the site of this Roman town is to the north of the present one; numerous relics have been discovered, fragments of statuary in marble and bronze, coins, vases stamped with the marks of the makers, etc., can be seen in the museum which is a part of the Hotel de Ville, and one of the largest buildings in the town. Relics of its Roman past have more particularly been found at Annecy-le-Vieux, a small village standing on a hill $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north west, which has a twelfth century tower with double tier of semicircular arches supported on columns, with carved caps, exposing the belfry within. In the inner south angle of the tower a Roman inscription will be found.

To-day the chief fascination of Annecy lies in its oldest streets, that is to say those bounding the Palais de l'Isle, and cut off from it by narrow canals crossed at intervals by narrow bridges, and giving the appearance of a miniature Venice.

The Rue St. Claire is perhaps the most picturesque, flanked on both sides with arcades, vaulted and carrying the houses above; underneath and between the arches are set out stalls, each containing that curious miscellaneous mixture of articles or food so typical of French country towns, and so refreshing as a novelty to the new-comer. Off this street lead others similarly arcaded, the arches varying in height and character, each seeming to have a fresh charm. Many of the arcades are plastered with advertisements. Even this, I must say, does not offend the eye, partly perhaps because a foreign advertisement is something



ANNECY: THE FORECOURT OF THE PALAIS DE L'ISLE.



ANNECY: THE CHATEAU DE NEMOURS.

more novel and less stereotyped than we in England are accustomed to see, and partly because the attraction of these arcaded streets was, I found, by far the most interesting of anything else in the town.

The curiously shaped Palais de l'Isle, with corbelled turret, on the angle facing the Lake, attracts attention. During the French Revolution it was used as a prison, it has also been used as a mint, law court, and council chamber. To-day it is used as a meeting hall for various societies, a public library, and a museum.

Near by is the church of St. Maurice, founded in 1422. Although heavily buttressed it shows a distinct list to the south, as is evident in the appearance of the west entrance.



ANNECY: RUE SAINTE CLAIRE.

The interior is extremely dark, and particularly badly ventilated. This makes it difficult and trying to examine the paintings it contains. In the apse are some delicately traceried windows of the 15th century.

Adjoining is the first church of the monastery of the Visitation, built in the 17th century. The remains of St. Francois de Sales, one time bishop of Geneva and founder of the Order in conjunction with Sainte Jeanne de Chantal, were until 1911 kept here. They were then moved with great ceremony to the new monastery now in course of erection on the top of the hill above the town, and placed each side of the altar in shrines which permit of the viewing of their bodies preserved in wax. They died early in the seventeenth century. Viewed from the lake the Château de Nemours is an imposing building, flanked by massive square towers, which somewhat dwarfs the white fronted



ANNECY-LE-VIEUX: SHOWING 12TH CENTURY BELFRY.

houses below. At present it is used as barracks. Clement VII, elected Pope in 1378, was born here. Henry IV once slept within its walls, and it became a royal residence in the seventeenth century. Its oldest parts date from the twelfth century. The Tour Perrière, the central tower seen in my photograph, was built during the fifteenth century, when the château was remodelled, the tower to the right being built in 1393. That on the left, the Tour la Reine, twelfth century its massiveness is not enhanced by the somewhat unsympathetic treatment of the main entrance, restored in 1868, whilst above machicolations and watch towers were constructed at the end of the fifteenth century.

The cathedral, a Renaissance building, is hemmed in by narrow streets, and closely built around, has no opportunity of expressing its individuality.

The west front with main entrance and two subsidiary, all with simple pediments and elaborately carved doors, connected by low and very worn stone seats opening on



ANNECY: PART OF THE WEST FRONT OF THE CATHEDRAL.

to a double stairway, is the most interesting, apart from the old-world atmosphere of some of its streets.

Annecy is extremely progressive, its area has increased very much of later years—particularly to the north.

Its chief industries are the making of pottery, chocolate, and linen bleacheries, the latter industry being established as far back as 1650. Amongst the famous men who are connected with the town must be mentioned J. J. Rousseau, the French philosopher, who fled there from Geneva and took up his abode at the house of Madame de Warens, who lived near the Cathedral.

The conclusion is held over because of want of space.

New Law of Property Act, 1925.

By F. E. Sugden, A.C.I.S., F.R.Econ.Soc., Barrister-at-Law.

There will shortly come into operation an Act of Parliament to consolidate the enactments relating to conveyancing (that is, a method by which property is transferred from one person to another) and the Law of Property in England and Wales which is the product of half a century's work by legal reformers. Prior Real Property Statutes (that is, broadly, statutes which refer to land and property) have previously been too cumbersome, out of date, too costly to operate and out of keeping with modern requirements. The object of the Consolidating Statute is to facilitate and cheapen all dealings in land, that is, to assimilate land, or real property as it is frequently called, to personal property (personal property legally is deemed to be such as money, goods, chattels, stocks, shares, securities, debts, etc.) in regard to its legal incidents—namely, to abolish the present unnecessary legal distinction between real and personal property.

The New Property Act, 1925, contains two hundred and nine sections and seven schedules. It is well nigh impossible to give a complete summary of the enactments within the limited space of the present article, but the chief changes in legal administration may be described thus: Briefly, there will be a simplification of tenures, that is, the mode of holding property. There will be a reduction of the number

of legal Estates to Absolute Fee Simple and terms of years. An Absolute Fee Simple is a perpetual interest in land which, after the death of each tenant, vests in his personal representatives for the benefit of the persons to whom he has devised it by will, or of the persons entitled to his property on intestacy, or, perhaps more briefly and broadly stated, is a tenant or occupier of land which he and his heirs hold for ever. The legal right of Tenancy in Common will be abolished when the new Act functions. The legal position of Tenancy in Common exists when several persons have several distinct estates in the same property either equal or unequal as distinct from joint holders, as in a partnership. At law, Settled Land Principles are applied. In the new enactment Trusts and most Equitables are taken off the Title. It is difficult to give a practical short definition of equitable interests, but a note on the old law might be helpful. A legal estate was an interest in land which was recognised and protected by the Courts of Common Law. The Court of Chancery also recognised and protected other interests and rights which the Courts of Law would not recognise; but the Court of Chancery would not enforce these equitable interests against a purchaser for value of a legal estate in the land who had no notice of their existence.

In accordance with the Act mortgages will be converted into Charges, leaving legal title in Mortgagor. The distinction briefly between a mortgage or charge is when the legal estate of land is conveyed to the person who lends the money; this is deemed to be a mortgage, but when the land is only held for a term of years as security and then the land reverts to the borrower, it is a charge.

There is also an alteration in the law in reference to Intestacy, that is, when a person has died but has left no will. All trusts and most equities are taken off the title; that is, they will not concern a purchaser or mortgagee as at present time. In reference to intestacy, a surviving wife or mother will have the same rights and privileges of inheritance and succession as a surviving husband or father.

Dealing with the main reforms in detail, the actual existence of Copyholds and Customary Tenures are abolished. Copyhold refers to property descending to the heir and not to next of kin in case of intestacy. The tenant must under such circumstances conform periodically to stipulated customs of the manor of which the lands are held. The abolition of Copyholds, etc., will have no effect upon the present system of conveyancing; that is, the transfer of property, say, from vendor to purchaser, but will affect in the near future the legal position of succession. Perpetually renewable leaseholds will be abolished. The New Property Act arranges for their conversion into terms of years as a substitute.

Leaseholds for life will be abolished; the existing ones will be converted into long term of years terminable on notice by either side on the falling in of the life on which the lease depends. The result of the change will be that in the future only two systems of land tenure will exist—namely, freehold and leasehold—thus there will be effected a great saving of legal costs.

In reference to the reduction of the number of legal Estates to Absolute Fee Simple and for a term of years, there will be a reduction in the cumbersome and unsatisfactory method in the degrees of ownership. The new statute reduces the legal estate in land, as distinguished from equitable or beneficial interests to two—namely, absolute fee simple and a term of years. The Act entirely abolishes all the legal estates, such as estate tail or remainders, and repeals the Statute of Uses.

Coming to the reform in regard to tenants in common, the new enactment prevents land being split up legally into undivided shares held in common, as is permissible at the present time. Land held by tenants in common will be vested in trustees on trust for sale, with full power to postpone the sale, the trustees being given the statutory position of a tenant for life under the Settled Land Acts with power to dispose of the land and give a good title.

At the present moment difficulty has been experienced in order to trace the legal ownership of land, and as a conse-



INTERIOR. G. ALAN FORTESCUE, Architect.

quence heavy legal costs have been incurred. In the new change all settlements and trusts and nearly all equities will be taken off the title. As a result of these provisions, the purchaser of land will be relieved from by far the greater part of the burden involved to-day in investigating the vendors' title; thus the Abstract of Title, that is, an epitome of the evidence of ownership, will in future be much shorter.

The changes in regard to the legal position of mortgages are that legal mortgages of freeholds for the future will, as is sometimes done to-day by conveyancers, take effect by means of creating a long leasehold term, leaving the legal fee simple in the mortgagor until the mortgagee sells off or forecloses; that is, seizes the property. Legal mortgages of leaseholds in a similar way will be effected by a subdemise, and not by assignment. The mortgagor will retain all his legal rights until the security is realised or, at least, possession is taken. The system will be by making a long leasehold term which is vested in the mortgagee. There will be an alternative type of mortgage, which is simpler than the first; that is, by way of legal charge of freehold or leasehold land.

The changed position legally in regard to settlements will be that Trusts will be created instead of the present system of a succession of legal estates. The tenant for life will be by the New Property Act made the owner in law, the settlement attaching to the moneys realised upon a sale and the purchaser taking free of the settlement, provided he passes the purchase money to the Trustees of the settlement.

To prevent fraud, the Act requires that if the Trustees are individuals there shall be at least two; more than four are forbidden for reasons of practical convenience. One trustee is permitted if it be a trust corporation or a bank, and incidentally similar precautions are imposed where land is held on trust for sale.

The changes in the law in regard to intestacy will be that property will be held by the personal representative of the intestate as to real estate upon trust for sale and as to personal estate to call in, sell and convert, with power in either case to postpone sale, etc., provision being made that personal chattels remain unsold unless needed for administration. Income of the estate, however invested, to be applied as income as from the death. Until distribution personal representatives may invest residue after payment of debts, etc., in trust investments with power to vary. The new Act puts the two sexes on an absolute equality, abolishing the preference which has hitherto been given to the male.

There are minor reforms—namely, when a tenant for life dies, the legal estate will pass on his death to the trustee of the settlement as his special representative for the administration of the settled estate, and the trustees of the settlement will in writing vest the land in the person next entitled, the next tenant for life, and nominate the proper persons to be the Settled Land Act trustees.

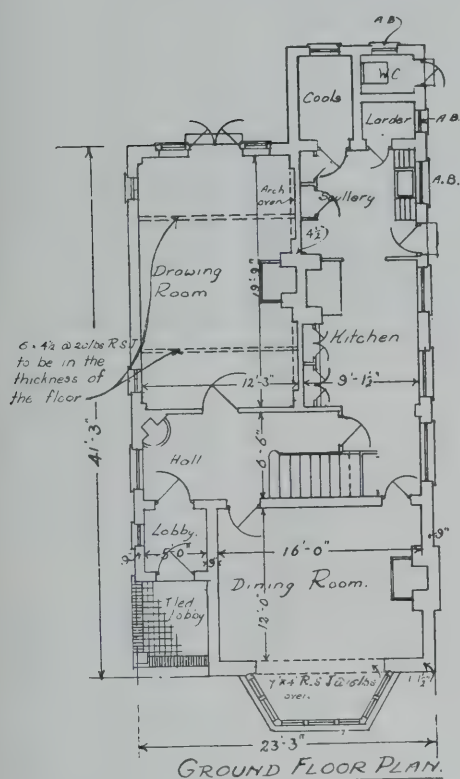
During the minority of a person the Act vests the legal estate in the Settled Land Act trustees, who have power to act on behalf of the infant.



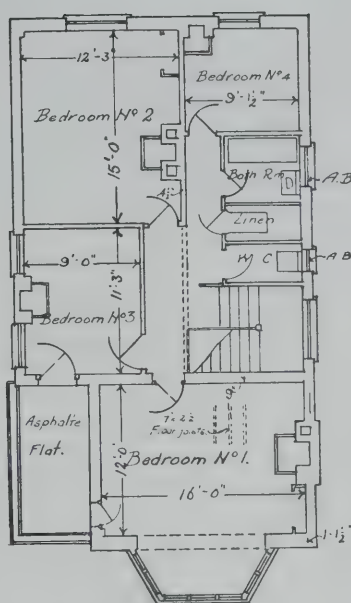
SOUTH ELEVATION.



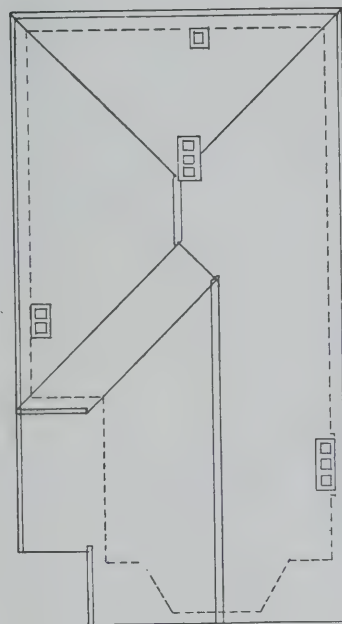
FRONT ELEVATION.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



ROOF PLAN

HOUSE, BEACH ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA, ESSEX. MESSRS. SMEE & HOUGHIN, Architects.

A charge for death duties is not to affect a purchaser unless it is registered as a land charge under the Land Charges Registration and Searches Act, 1880. It will, therefore, always be possible for a purchaser to know whether the land is free from such a charge without investigating the trusts.

The system of registration of land charges is consequently extended in the Act by making it applicable, on the one hand to certain equities, such as restrictive covenants and contracts of sale, and, secondly, to charges for local expenses, such as street paving, and in future an official certificate of search at the local town hall or at the Land Registry, as the case may be, should give complete protection to the purchaser.

In regard to real property the Act preserves the system of settlement and entail and so it also extends that system in equity to all personal property, with the result that it will hereafter be possible to settle or entail personalty by the same words as realty without any complex trust.

Finally, a contingent provision is made for the possibility of a compulsory extension of registration of title twelve years hence, should experience then show that such an extension is desirable.

GLASGOW.—The city engineer has now prepared sketch plans for a new and improved Kelvin Hall on Bunhouse Ground and he has been asked to obtain offers for the erection of the buildings from Messrs. Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., and others, with a guarantee of the time the building will be ready for occupation. Offers for the erection of the hall have since been received and range from £143,000 to £160,000, the time for completion varying from six to ten months. The matter is being considered by the Kelvin Hall Committee.—Messrs. Keppie & Henderson, architects, are to erect buildings between Gallogate and London Street, the cost being estimated at £80,000.—The purchase of St. John's Church, George Street, at a cost of £14,000, is recommended with a view to the site being utilised in connection with any future extension of the Municipal buildings.—Improvements are to be carried out at Victoria Park at a cost of £6,000.—A site in Stobcross Street is being acquired for the erection of a welfare centre for the Anderson district.—Various properties are being acquired in connection with the construction of a new road through Ibroxholm. The Housing Committee are to erect 154 houses at Langlands and 38 on the experimental section of the estate.—A new road is to be constructed through the Possilpark Estate.—The Housing Director has prepared plans for the lay-out of land at Netherton for a re-housing scheme.—The Housing Committee are to inspect a timber bungalow which Messrs. James Jones & Sons, Ltd., have erected in Larbert.

A Woman Architect Speaks Her Mind.

(From "The American Architect.")

The architectural profession, or at least that portion of it able to publish its opinions, has been greatly agitated lately on the question of artistic education of the masses to a point where they will appreciate good architecture, though not necessarily pay for it. In their generous enthusiasm architects have given prodigally of their time, skill, talent and money. No emancipated flapper ever demanded or received more attention than the *small house* is getting these days.

In addition to the altruistic architects, every woman's magazine, every garden magazine, every newspaper, every building material company, every real estate board, every one who wants to give away something someone else has done, in the furthering of his own interests, is on the harassed trail of the small home owner and determinedly and insistently forcing *good or better architecture* on his reluctant contemplation.

I am beginning to wonder if some of these architects are not feeling like the hen that sat on the serpent's eggs.

It is an unfortunate fact that every accomplished reform brings with it some new tribulation to offset its benefits. Prohibition, the beleaguered, brings with it the aristocracy of the bootlegger and his family; the abolition of slavery brought the pleasant necessity of having to draw your little Ford to one side of the road while the wife of the Pullman porter sweeps by in her limousine; the emancipation of women brought the lipstick and nude stockings; the widely—not to say wildly—advertised interest in home building and *better homes* brings the speculative builder.

Of course, it is beneath the dignity of a successful architect, under ordinary circumstances, to worry over the ones who are being supplanted by the speculative builders; but the very sharp kick in the point is that the lesser architects, deprived of the natural outlet for their talents, are invading the fields of the successful, and, by cutting fees, are getting away with business they would not once have attempted.

One architect of my acquaintance, who, five years ago, turned up his classic nose as high as it would go at the mere mention of anything other than a large commercial building at six per cent., has not had a job in over a year. The "cut rate boys" have taken them all away from him.

Time was, when I was a very young and innocent draftsman, that the noble profession of architecture was looked upon with respect. The builder took orders from the architect, with more or less meekness, regardless of his feelings. Conditions are reversed now; the architect takes orders from the builder. The speculators, risen now to the dizzy heights of *city builders*, at least that is the way our leading news sheet so described them in a recent eulogy, are kindly recognising the profession of architecture to the extent of declaring in the lurid advertisements of their wares the fact that the building was "designed by an architect" and, I must say, the architects, generous creatures, must be deeply gratified to see the increasing excellence in the designs of sale houses. Many of them have a great many extremely good lines, not to say a "superfluity" of good lines. I started to write superfluity, but the other word seemed to fit so very much better.

Our town is, I believe, a typical town. It is a community of a little more than half a million happy, money-chasing souls. It has some very bad qualities (mentioned especially at election time) and some very good qualities, mixed in about the proportions usual in most towns, regardless of the claims of the Chambers of Commerce. What we do here is happening in hundreds of other towns all over the country, except in some portions of the haughty East, God's country.

Shortly after the close of the latest unpleasantness some one started the rumour of a building shortage, and everyone who could rake up two extra dollars started out to remedy matters immediately and at once. But, though building has been at fever heat ever since, a toadstool growth that

has swept over the city like a blight in a quince orchard and doesn't seem to know it is time to stop, there is not enough architectural work to keep fifteen good firms really busy, and there are listed in the telephone book seventy-eight firms practising or trying to practise this profession, besides the Lord knows how many not listed.

Practically all of the apartment houses, hotels, shops and business buildings, as well as most of the houses both large and small, are in the hands of speculators, many of whom have, through shoddy construction, waxed fat and prosperous, extremely prosperous. Few of these builders ever employ an architect, never one of any standing, and never at the ethical fee or anything approaching it.

Not long ago one of the most successful of this go-getter type of speculator had a very large tract of ground he wished developed with apartment hotels and apartments. The weary brain of his "architect" evidently must have refused to function satisfactorily, so, with the idea of getting a lot of information and suggestions he would not have to pay for, he staged a competition for the best solution of this extremely difficult problem. The first prize was five hundred dollars; a thousand dollars more was divided into several smaller prizes. The drawings called for required a good deal of time and study and expense in their preparation and the contestants were most emphatically informed that the winner was in no way assured of being awarded the contract, but, I am ashamed to say it, most of the leading architectural firms of the city, and we have some really good ones, entered this competition.

Another of the go-getters, who always advertises his "architect" extensively, once said to me, "Do you think I am going to let any architect tell me what I can do? I know my buildings violate the ordinances, but what of it? If they did not, I could not meet the prices of my competitors, and that is not going to happen as long as I know a few aldermen." This is their spirit, and yet, I have recently noticed a number of architects who once would not have considered such a thing for a moment, now allowing speculators to advertise them as "their architects." Others allow their draftsmen to work for speculators on the side. Still others, the strugglers, are seeking this class of work in the hope it will "give them a start."

The A.I.A. is recognising the increasing need of the most show for the least money and is cutting down the cost of its membership and emphasising its willingness to allow architects to get business on a price-cutting basis and still remain in good standing as members of the Institute. The A.I.A. has been very much interested in getting cheap plans to the public, and I believe the results of its efforts are already showing strong.

In getting cheap drama (the movies) to the masses, the legitimate drama is fighting for its life, with small chances of recovery. I believe the radio, as it is now used, will do more to cheapen and degrade the national taste for music than any other thing, for no one ever yet had his appreciation of the worth of a thing increased by having that thing given to him at cut rates. Furthermore, the way the architects are cheapening their work is simply undermining the foundations of the structure in which they live. To stretch the figure a little, they will soon be in the delightful position of the mother spider whose children devour her; but, of course, their altruism will not allow them to object to emulating the spider martyr, nor need they worry about what the speculators will do when they have passed on. There will always be other excavators and other mother spiders to take their places.

History relates that architects once were slaves. It looks as if history were going to repeat, and as if architects would go the way of the disappearing dressmaker and all of our buildings be "ready mades."

ALICE WALTON.

Tenders have been received for the repair to the Parish Church roof, Old Warden, Bedfordshire. Architects, Messrs. Cockrill & Sellek, 7 St. Paul's Square, Bedford and Biggleswade. Messrs. Fennemore & Son, builders, Potton, who gave the lowest tender (£142 10s.) are recommended for acceptance.



THE QUAY HOUSE, SWANAGE. WILFRID TRAVERS, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

Doctor's House at Swanage.

WILFRID TRAVERS, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

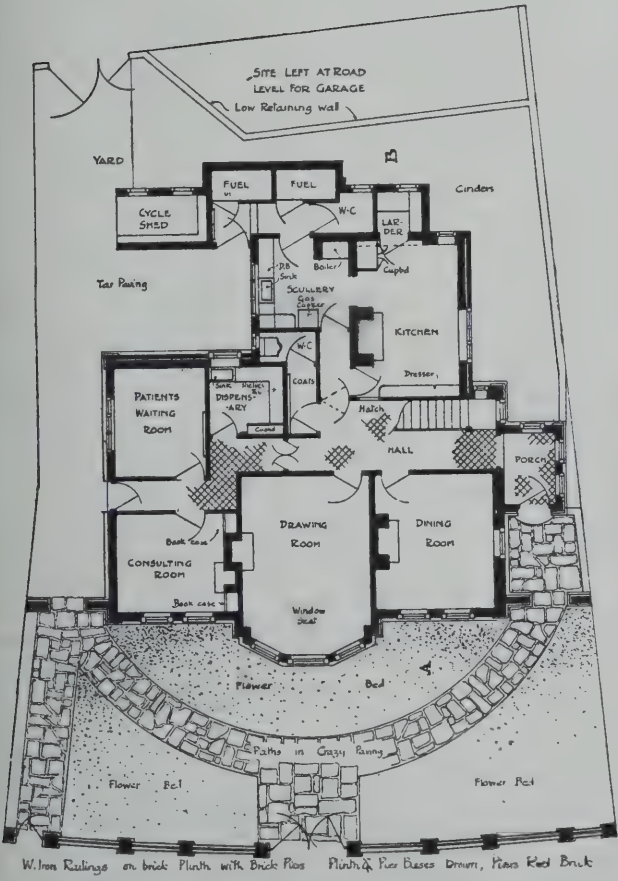
This house is in the main street and faces south, while the back looks over the bay, the upper windows having a view over the coalsheds on the sea front. "The View Balcony," which opens off the staircase, has been provided to make the most of this aspect. The house is finished with red hand-made sand-faced facings and purple quoins of a similar texture from the north of the county. The roof is done with Fontley tiles. The arrangement of the plan provides separate entrances for patients and private visitors. The contract price, including all fittings, was £2,841.

The house was built in 1922-23—contractors were Messrs. Bird & Co., of Swanage, and the following sub-contractors were employed: Messrs. Faldo & Co., for asphaltting; Messrs. The Albion Iron Co., for sanitary fittings and stoves; Messrs. Barlow Bros. & Co., for electric lighting.

Boyle's Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilator has been applied to Wisbech High School, under the direction of Mr. R. S. W. Perkins, County Surveyor, Wisbech.

BLACKPOOL.—A scheme is in hand for a proposed Memorial Hall and Sunday School and Vestries for the South Shore Parish Church (Vicar, the Rev. C. Dean, M.A.). The new buildings, the cost of which is estimated to be about £3,000, will be in keeping with the church. The frontage to Dean Street will be rustic brick, with red sandstone dressings. The vestries will be faced with Yorkshire parapoints. The accommodation of the large assembly hall (with gallery) will be for 766 people, and the smaller hall will seat 300 persons. A club room will be used as a Young Men's Institution. The architect for the scheme is Mr. A. A. C. Moore, of No. 19 Abington Street, Blackpool, and it is hoped to put the work in hand as soon as possible.

BOURNEMOUTH.—The memorial in memory of the late Father de Lapasture, S.J., is to take the form of a marble pulpit in the Church of Corpus Christi, Boscombe, Bournemouth. Competitive designs have been invited for the memorial and the design selected was that of Sir Gilbert Scott.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

Building Progress in London.

■ We commented some time since upon the transformation of the Peabody Buildings behind Victoria Street into better class flats. We are to suppose that the position was no longer regarded as suitable for the cheaper dwellings and that the property was sold in order to obtain a more fitting site elsewhere. At any rate, we notice that a large area has been secured lying between Fulham Palace Road and Queen Street, Hammersmith, whereupon 26 double blocks of four-storey dwellings and several cottages are in course of erection by the Peabody Trustees, their architect being Mr. Victor Wilkins. The appearance of the blocks should prove quite satisfactory architecturally. Walter Lawrence & Son, Ltd., are the general contractors; Thomas Lawrence & Sons are supplying their well-known red facing bricks for portions of the façades; Dorking Brick Co., Ltd., for stock bricks; A. C. W. Hobman & Co., Ltd., artificial stonework; and Wiggins & Co. for roof tiling. Nearly 350 tenants will be housed on the site.

In our issue of July 31 last we gave a list of those responsible for the new Liberty buildings in Regent Street. We are able to supplement that list by adding the following two sub-contractors: The British Challenge Glazing Co., for lantern skylights, and the Acme Flooring and Paving Co. (1904), Ltd., for wood block flooring.

Nos. 94-98 Regent Street, being rebuilt for Messrs. Hope Brothers, are in the hands of Bovis, Ltd., as general contractors; Somerville-Barnard, for steel construction; Caxton Hollow Fire-Resisting Patent R.C., floors; Rosser & Russell, Ltd., central heating; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, artesian wells; Express Lift Co.'s lifts; Locke and Soare, electrical engineering; and Haskins' for shop fronts. Mr. Gordon Jeeves is the architect for the Quadrant Arcade (Nos. 80 and 82), as he is for the Regent Arcade (Nos. 252-262), but neither of these are as yet much in evidence. Ford & Walton, Ltd., and Kirk & Randall are the respective general contractors for the two arcades; Pollards will supply the store fronts for the Quadrant Arcade; and for the other one the following are a few of the sub-contractors: St. Mary's Wharf, for demolition, excavation and sand ballast; Matthew T. Shaw & Co., Ltd., for the steel construction; and Birmingham Guild, Ltd., for bronze and enamel work.

No. 27 Conduit Street, the home of Ambassadors' Club, Ltd., is undergoing extensive alterations, the general contractors being Douglas Halse & Co., Ltd.; Doulton & Co., Ltd., for terra-cotta work; Measures Brothers (1911), Ltd., for steelwork; Young, Austen & Young, heating and ventilation; the Mack-Allen Heating Co., Ltd., for electric lighting; Smith, Major-Stevens, Ltd., for lifts; G. F. Henney, metal laylights; Welstead, metal windows; Haywards, Ltd., escape staircases; the Indented Bar Co., for reinforced concrete; Modellers and Plaster Decoration Co., fibrous plaster; C. Sacchi and Les Constructeurs Associés de Paris, for kitchen equipment; Bagués, Ltd., for metalwork and balustrades; and Waring & Gillow, Ltd., for furnishing.

On the site of Nos. 1-9, Wigmore Street, new headquarters for the Children's Special Service Mission are being erected. The general contractors are Holliday & Greenwood, Ltd.; the "S.M." Constructional Co., Ltd., are supplying their hollow fire-resisting flooring; and Heenan & Froude (Manchester) are responsible for the steelwork construction. The façade is in mottled bricks, with red gauged brick dressings. Stone is sparingly used, and the whole appearance is very pleasing, in a simple Renaissance style, such as we associate with the Queen Anne period.

The Civil Service Supply Association has taken No. 125 Strand, so as to form an entrance to their Bedford Street premises, and considerable alterations are necessarily being made. Ford & Walton, Ltd., are the general contractors; the Cement Marketing Co. are supplying their well-known "Blue Circle" cement; Ingram, Perkins & Co., Ltd., are the timber merchants; Crittall Manufacturing Co., for the metal windows; and Rashleigh Phipps, Ltd., are the engineers for electric lighting.

In Sloane Street (Nos. 30-33), at the corner of Hans Crescent, an attractive block of shops and business premises

is approaching completion, Messrs. Robert Angell & Curtis being the architects. The builders are James Smith & Sons, Ltd.; Salter, Edwards & Co. are supplying the asphalt; Hope's (of London and Birmingham), the heating; and Cecil Cooper & Co., Ltd., the electrical engineering. The elevations exhibit all-stone façades and the general treatment is decidedly architectural.

Further along the thoroughfare, nearer Knightsbridge, a large block of ten-storey flats will shortly be in evidence, to be known as Knightsbridge Court, the architects being Messrs. Dudley, Newman & Elliott. William Downs, Ltd., are the general contractors. There will be sixty sets in all. Labour-saving devices will be introduced, and it is intended to instal self-ventilating gas fires, the flues of which will be constructed of Nautilus cast-concrete flue blocks, thus eliminating the expense and obstruction of the old-fashioned chimney breast. We expect to refer again to these flats in a later issue.

It was quite a commendable stroke of economy which led the Government during the war to dispense with any architectural adornment to the façades of the new Science Museum, Exhibition Road. The result was a nightmare building, which we are glad to find is now undergoing the process of having its outer garment supplied, consisting of red brick general facings, with stone for the window heads, cornices and sundry dressings. J. E. Johnson & Son, Ltd., are the builders employed for the operations by the Office of Works.

Recently we noted that the L.C.C. Fire Brigade was having the upper storeys of one of the stations converted into offices. We notice that this is taking place also at the station in Bishopsgate Street, where Mr. W. Newcombe Wright, F.S.I., is acting as architect for the alterations, and Mullen & Lumsden, Ltd., as the builders. London Brick Co. and Forders' Aldous-Campbell lifts are to be installed.

LEEDS.—The University of Leeds is about to issue a public appeal for funds to erect new buildings which are urgently and immediately needed to carry on its work. No architect has yet been appointed to prepare any plans.

ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.—For some time past the Church of St. Annes-on-the-Sea has proved so unequal to meeting the demands of the town and district that an improvement scheme has been prepared which, at a cost of £9,000, will enable the present accommodation of 300 to be doubled. The improvement involves the taking down of the west end of the church and adding to the main edifice an erection 6 feet wider than the present section. The addition will be carried back to the building line in St. David's Road South, where there will be two doors. In the new portion there will be a gallery containing the organ, approached by a stone staircase on the left, whilst on the opposite side will be a baptistery. The building will be fronted with ornamental stone, and it is expected the work will be completed in about 12 months. The architects for the scheme are Messrs. Pugin and Pugin, of Liverpool.

STOCKPORT.—The Building Committee of the Stockport Infirmary reported that plans had been prepared by Messrs. Worthington & Sons for the erection of a gymnasium for Swedish remedial and medical exercises. In view of the shortage of bedrooms for the nursing staff and with the growing work of the Massage, Electrical and Orthopaedic Departments, the Committee recommended that scheme No. 2 should be adopted at an estimated cost of £5,500 and they asked for an authority to engage a quantity surveyor and for tenders to be invited. The new scheme provides for eight new bedrooms for the nurses.

Every maritime authority in the world has been informed of the fall of the famous No. 1 chimney at Bevan's Works, Northfleet, which has been demolished by the Associated Portland Cement Association in connection with developments in the Thames-side cement industry. The chimney was marked on all charts and known to every Thames pilot. In misty weather pilots bringing vessels up river would order a man to the mast-head to take a bearing on the chimney, which could often be seen over the low-lying river fog, and so became known among watermen as "The Mariner's Chimney."

Steel pipes, which during the War carried water across the desert for our troops in Palestine, will be used by the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers in their works reconstruction scheme at Northfleet on the Thames. The pipes will serve as the slurry mains, for conveying the liquid cement to the kilns.

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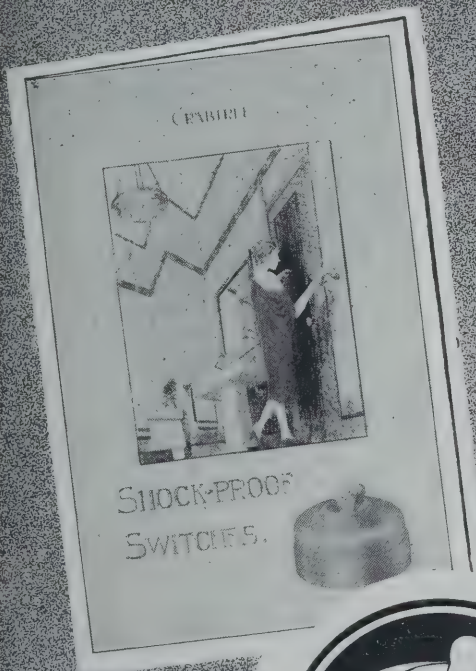
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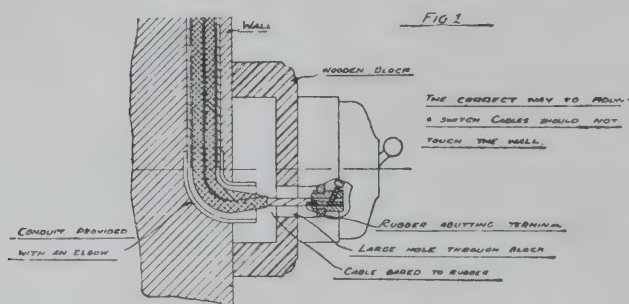
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Corrosion of Tumbler Switches.

In comparatively recent times there appears to have developed quite an epidemic of the corroding of tumbler switch terminals, and we are afraid that the general tendency has been to cast the blame on the switch makers. The General Electric Co., therefore, concluded that the matter was so serious as to call for investigation by their research laboratories.

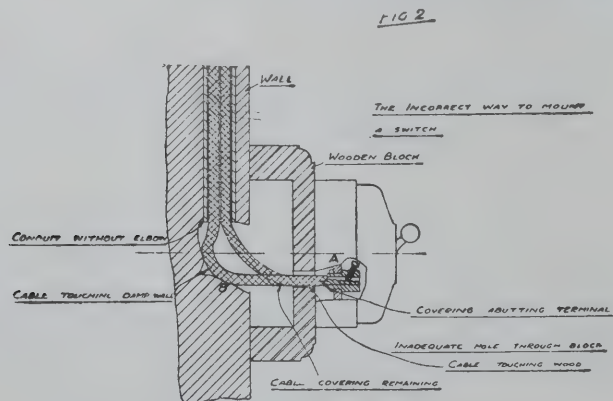
To commence with, visits were paid to houses in which the trouble occurred, and it was definitely ascertained that the corrosion, which is of a brownish green colour, was found only in those houses which were wired on the negative side of a three-wire d.c. system, and that it did not occur in houses which were connected on the positive side of the system. It was then decided to reproduce the conditions in the laboratory. These laboratory tests were an absolute confirmation of the results met with in actual practice, viz., that the corrosion invariably occurred on the negative side. The experiments showed that the corrosion only becomes evident when the switches are fitted in a damp situation, and it was assumed—and later tests proved this assumption to be correct—that moisture is drawn up to the switch terminal by the capillary action of the outer braiding of the cable. Leakage is set up and electrolytic action takes place. As the result of this, copper is deposited on the negative terminal, which in air turns to copper carbonate and thus forms a porous covering of salt, tending always to keep the surface wet, thus spreading the trouble. As the blades of the switch become wet the solution is splashed on to the cover of the switch when the switch is operated.



Further experiments were conducted in which the bare ends of the cables were well greased before insertion in the switch terminals, and this appeared to have a good effect, as only slight corrosion was observable.

Still further experiments were carried out under exactly similar conditions, with the exception that the outer covering of the cable was bared down to the rubber insulation for some distance before entering the switch, so that it could not possibly touch the metal of the switch terminals. It was then found that corrosion did not occur.

Switches mounted on the positive side of the system are not subject to this trouble. It is well-known that a film of high



resistance is formed on the metal of the positive pole which speedily causes the cessation of the leakage current, hence the absence of corrosion.

To summarise the matter, it is apparent that the trouble is caused by the mounting of switches in such a way that the outer braiding is brought right up to the base of the terminal on the switch (see "A," Fig. 2) after having been in contact with water from the damp wall (see "B," Fig. 2). The walls of newly built houses tend to be damp for many months; some houses, indeed, are permanently damp.

The only remedy is good and careful installation. If the position of the switch is such that the wall and surroundings are damp, the following precautions should be taken:

(a) Cables should not touch the damp wall on their way from the conduit in the switch. A large enough cavity or the protection afforded by an elbow joint in the conduit should be provided behind the switch in order to ensure this.

(b) Cables should be bared down to the rubber for some inches before entering the back of the switch.

(c) The ends of the cable should be covered in thick grease before being inserted into the switch.

As this subject is of considerable importance, especially in view of the large number of new houses being erected to-day, it is hoped that the publicity now given will be well received, and that the suggested precautions for overcoming the corrosion trouble will be adopted.

Although tumbler switches only are dealt with in this article it will be evident that exactly the same conditions may be met with in such other accessories as fuse boards, wall plugs, cutouts, etc., and although those are not called upon to give a mechanical performance as is the case with switches, it is important that for the sake of their lasting properties and electrical efficiency similar care in installing them should be exercised.

The two diagrams given show the correct and incorrect methods of installing a tumbler switch.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

AUGUST 28, 1875.

LEICESTER COUNTY COURT, AUGUST 18.
Before Mr. Sergeant MILLER.

ARCHITECTS' FEES.—TITE v. PALMER.

The plaintiff was an architect and builder in Leicester. He was employed by the defendant to prepare plans, elevations, and quantities. He charged 1½ per centage, which was below the usual rate. He had charged a fair sum for the work, upon the lowest tender, £782. He did not profess to build the house for defendant.

Mr. T. H. Baker, architect and surveyor, said he had examined the accounts of charges for the work, and £16 was a very moderate charge for the work done. The plans in question and the quantities had been tendered from, and if the plans and quantities were good enough to be tendered from, a good per centage should be charged. The per centage charged by the plaintiff was below the usual charge.

On behalf of the defendant it was said that the plaintiff was not an architect but a builder, and when he heard that defendant was about to build a house he went to him, and said he could build a house as cheaply as anyone else. The defendant said he had plans prepared by Mr. Needham, and Mr. Tite altered them with the view of tendering for the work, and now he set up a charge of £16 for the amount of work he had done.

Defendant said in October last he was in treaty with a Mr. Needham for building a house at Aylestone, and had plans. Plaintiff was introduced to him, and said he could build the house cheaper than most of the builders. Plaintiff went to his house and obtained the plans while defendant was in Ireland. Plaintiff altered the plans, and he asked him what his price would be to build the house, and he said £900. They struck out one stable, and then the plaintiff's price was more than Mr. Needham's. The negotiations then ceased between himself and plaintiff, and Mr. Needham built the house. The house was eventually built from the plans of Messrs. Burton and Willoughby for £760.

His Honour thought the charges were reasonable, and gave a verdict for plaintiff with costs.

Continued from page 156.

architect, A. McDonald, Meadow Street, Manchester; the Committee, revised details of foundations to Synagogue, Queen's Road and Lansdown Road, West Didsbury—architect, D. Joseph, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.2; L. T. Taylor, conversion of garage and stable into dwelling house, Carlton Road, Whalley Range, Manchester—architect, J. H. Maybury & Son, 11 Chapel Walks, Manchester; Manchester and Salford Co-operative Wholesale Society, alterations to branch premises, 58 Lloyd Street South, Manchester—architects, C.W.S., 1 Balloon Street, Manchester; Moss Side Garage and Mart Co., five lock-up shops, Carter Street and Denmark Road, Greenheys—architect, H. Booth, 46 Chorlton Road, Manchester; Artistic Housing Co., revised plan of six houses and 26 dwelling houses, Upper Chorlton Road, Oldfield and Whalley Roads, Moss Side—architect, E. Thomas, Sedgley Park, Prestwich.

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Manchester Building News.

MANCHESTER.—The Tramways Committee of the Manchester Corporation approved an amended elevation prepared by the city architect of the proposed new car shed in Birchfield Road, Manchester, and also plans prepared by the city architect showing proposed layout of the new Parcels Depot at the Hyde Road Depot.—The Education Committee received a letter from the St. Malachys R.C. School, Collyhurst, with respect to the provision of a new school, and it was resolved not to offer any objections to the erection of such school, and plans were approved in connection with the proposed alterations to be carried out at the Chorlton Central School.—It was resolved that work should be proceeded with in connection with the alterations and additions at the Heald Place Council School.—It is proposed to erect a school for mentally defective children at Cheetham Hill, and negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of the land required.—Plans were submitted for the new Victoria Avenue School, Blackley, and same being approved were forwarded to the B.E. and authority has been given for alterations and additions at the St. Peter's School and Waterloo Road School Cookery and Laundry Centres.—The Housing Committee reported that the following sites were considered suitable for the erection of licensed premises: Wilbraham Road Estate, land situate on the easterly side of Princess Road, south of Wilbraham Road; Anson Estate, land situate at the junction of Birch Hall Lane and Brynton Road, and lying on the easterly side of these roads; Clayton Estate, land situate on either side of Folkstone Road and north of Folkstone Road East and Folkstone Road West.—The report on the proposed acquisition of land at Moston for the purpose of erection thereon of 610 houses under the Housing Acts was approved and ordered to be forwarded to the Finance Committee.—The sites for the houses to be erected by the Corporation and the number of houses allocated to each site are as follows: Blackley, 250 houses; Moston, 610 houses; Openshaw and Gorton, 450; and South Manchester, 690 houses.—Plans approved by the Improvement and Building Committee include the following: Moston Brick Co., dedication plan and section of back streets off Mount Road, Gorton—architects, J. H. Maybury & Son, 11 Chapel Walks, Manchester; H. Hayes, dedication plan and section of new streets, Lightbowne Avenue and Borden Avenue, Gorton—architects, Foden, Hemm & Williams, 199 Deansgate, Manchester; J. H. Squires, shop fronts, 317 and 319 Ashton Old Road, Openshaw—architects—Thorpe & Collier, 66 Deansgate, Manchester; Manchester and Salford Co-operative Society, alterations to premises No. 41 Stockport Road and Mayfield Road, Levenshulme—architects, Co-operative Wholesale Society, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester; revised details of fourth floor to warehouse, Portland Street—architect, H. S. Fairhurst, 14 Chancery Lane, Manchester; addition to billiard hall, No. 89 St. James Street, and Oxford Street—architect, W. L. Mellor, St. James Street, Manchester; Boot's Pure Drug Co., Ltd.; alterations to premises, Nos. 117 and 119 Cross Street, Gorton; T. B. Finney & Co., addition to boiler house, Trentham Street, Hulme—architects, Pendleton & Dickinson, 16 Brazenrose Street, Manchester; J. A. Taylor, shops, showrooms and offices, Deansgate, Camp Street and Longworth Street—architect, J. Knight, 15 Cross Street, Manchester; Manchester Dairy Co., Ltd., alterations to dairy, Higher Ardwick and Park Place—architects, Eades & Carley, 17 St. Anne's Square, Manchester; H. J. Ogden, conveniences and store, rear of Nos. 9 to 13 Cumberland Street—own architects; Barlow & Jones, revised plan of steelwork to sub-basement of warehouse, Portland Street and Parker Street—architects, Bradshaw, Gass & Hope, Silverwell Street, Bolton; Moston Brick Co., plans of four shops and houses, Mount Road, Gorton—architects, J. H. Maybury & Son, 11 Chapel Walks, Manchester; The Committee, revised plan and section of nurses' dining room, Jewish Hospital, Elizabeth Street, Cheetham—architect, C. Swain, 12 Exchange Street, Manchester; Longden & Sutcliffe, revised plan of roof, shops and offices, etc., Cromford Court, Market Street—architect, A. Winstanley, 49 Deansgate, Manchester; Barb Engineering Co., addition to works, Wellington Street and Oldham Street, Newton Heath—architects—Barker & Hoyland, 32 King Street West, Manchester; Messrs. Wood, alterations to skating rink, Thomas Street, Cheetham—architect, E. Thomas, Sedgley Park, Prestwick; Mrs. A. Laske, conversion of house into house and shop, No. 41 Halliwell Lane and Marshall Place, Cheetham—architects, Lancaster and Taylor, Junction Street, Hulme; M. Bosodyn and R. Nixon, five houses, Sparth Road, Newton Heath—architect, J. Dalley Rusholme; H. F. Kemp, dedication plan and section of new street, Hilbre Road, Miwain Road, Levenshulme—architect, H. Turner; Trustees of W. Marshall, dedication plan and section of new street Lynton Drive and a

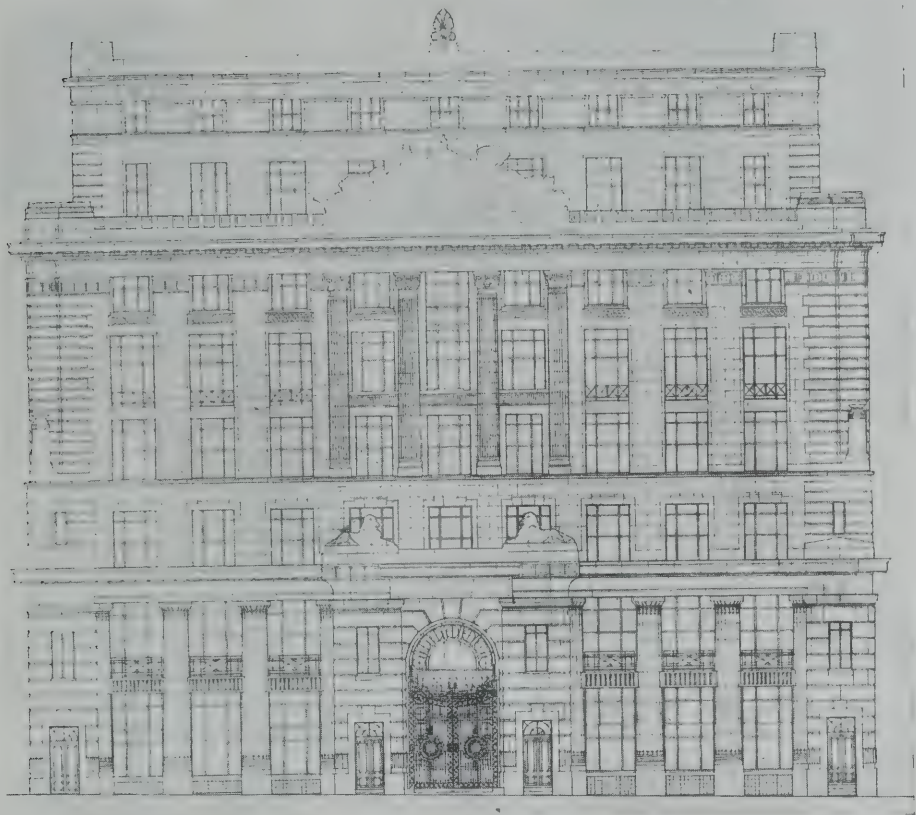
portion of Clifton Street and footpath off same, Burnage—architect, J. H. Maybury, 11 Chapel Walks, Manchester; J. Brown, conversion of house into two houses, Albert Place, Rusholme—architect, C. Dain; W. Egerton, paint shop and store, Ladybarn Road, Fallowfield—architect, F. Bell; revised plan and section of balcony to La Scala Picture Hall, Oxford Road, Chorlton-on-Medlock—architects, Jones & Dalrymore, 178 Oxford Road, Manchester; W. O. Samuels, two houses, Dennison Road and Conyngham Road, Rusholme—architect, J. H. Fletcher, 88 Mosley Street, Manchester; Suburban Building Co., 34 lock-up garages, Beresford Road and Hawkhurst Road, Rusholme—architect, W. W. Goulding, Central Road, Manchester; J. Lees, alterations to No. 520 Stockport Road and Plymouth Grove, Chorlton-on-Medlock—architects, Broughton, Atkinson & Eagle, 37 Brown Street, Manchester; W. Meredith, 24 houses, Birchfields Road, Rusholme—own architect; F. W. Woolenden, eight houses, Holbeck Grove, Rusholme—architect, H. V. Dyson, 48 Bridge Street, Manchester; Lord Egerton of Tatton, per J. Smith, dedication plan and section of new streets, Vaughan Road, continuation of King's Road and Egerton Road, South, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, St. John's Road, Fowey Road, and continuation of Huyton Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Oldfield, Upper Choriton Road, Moss Side—architect, E. Thomas Sedgley Park, Prestwick; Harrods, Ltd., van store to depository, Wilmslow Road, Rusholme—architect, N. Jones, Lord Street, Southport; Alza Manufacturing Co., toilet works, Lytham Avenue, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy—architect, M. C. Sunter, Oswald Road, Chorlton; Booth & Brittain, two houses, Egerton Road South, Chorlton-cum-Hardy—architect, G. Westcott, 13 Bridge Street, Manchester; J. Lane & Son, 100 houses, Vaughan Road, King's Road, Lambton Road, and Egerton Road South—architect, G. Westcott, 13 Bridge Street; S. Patterson, 12 houses, St. John's Road and Fowey Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy—own architect; Artistic Housing Co., eight houses, Whalley Road, Moss Side—architect, E. Thomas, Sedgley Park, Prestwick; Gill and Parr, four houses, Clarence Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy—architect, T. H. Patching, 161 Hill Lane, Blackley; Byer, Peacock & Co., garage to works, Gorton Lane, Gorton—own architects; A. Cox, alteration to premises, 53 Cross Street and Ellesmere Street, Gorton—architect, A. McDonald, Meadow Street, Manchester; S. Gardner, revised elevation to shop and offices, Deansgate and Longworth Street—architect, A. R. Parker, 9 Albert Square, Manchester; E. Cohen, details of concrete foundation to Imperial Buildings, Oxford Road, Chorlton-on-Medlock—architect, C. Swain, 12 Exchange Street, Manchester; British and Colonial Furniture Co., Ltd., shop fronts to premises, 146 Deansgate and Wood Street—architect, G. de Fraser, 27 Dale Street, Liverpool; Grand Hotel Co., alteration to Grand Hotel, Aytoun Street, Hope Street, and Cheetham Street—architects, Graves & Ellerton, 9 Mount Street; Beswick Co-operative Society, branch premises, Hyde Road, Gorton—architects, C.W.S., 1 Balloon Street, Manchester; Guardian Assurance Co., Ltd., offices, Cross Street, Chapel Walks and Back Pool Fold—own architects; H. Hilton, additions and alterations to shop and house, Moston Lane, New Moston—architect, G. H. Fletcher, 26 Corporation Street, Manchester; T. Partington, alteration to premises, 1 Willow Bank, Church Lane and Wembley Street, Harpurhey—architect, J. Bracegirdle; Packing Association, Ltd., revised plan of drains to factory, Vauxhall Street, Rochdale Road—architect L. Knowles, 22 Bridge Street, Manchester; the Baths' Committee, Public Wash-houses and Wash Baths, Dean Lane and Bacup Street, Moston—City Architect; J. Meek & Co., additions to works, Dutton Street, Cheetham—architect, A. McDonald, Meadow Street, Manchester; T. H. Halsall, eight dwelling houses, Birkdale Street, Cheetham—architect, J. Percival, 11 Blackfriars Street, Manchester; P. Alberti, three houses and shop and house, Nuthurst Road and Lightbowne Road, Moston—architect, A. Winstanley, 49 Deansgate, Manchester; J. H. Clare, dwelling house, Hall Road, Rusholme—architect, F. Bell; T. H. Somerville & Son, alterations to premises, 27 Nelson Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock—own architects; Electricity Committee, electricity substation off Burnage Lane, Burnage—City Architect; Commercial Estates, Ltd., four dwelling houses, Adria Road, West Didsbury—architects, Pendleton & Dickinson, 16 Brazenrose Street, Manchester; Suburban Building Co., 18 dwelling houses, Moseley Road and Fortuna Grove, Levenshulme—architect, W. W. Goulding; H. Elmston, office to laundry, Crescent Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy—architect, O. B. Tatterall, Yarborough Street, Manchester; Dr. Soni, additions to house, Moss Lane East and St. Bees Street, Moss Side—

Concluded on page 154

CONTENTS.

Kingsway, Aldwych and the Strand	PAGE 157	Overcrowding	PAGE 168
Witton's Suburban Villa	162	Correspondence	169
Picturesque Corners of Savoy	164	A Midland Building Exhibition	170
Machine Made Dwellings	166	General News	172

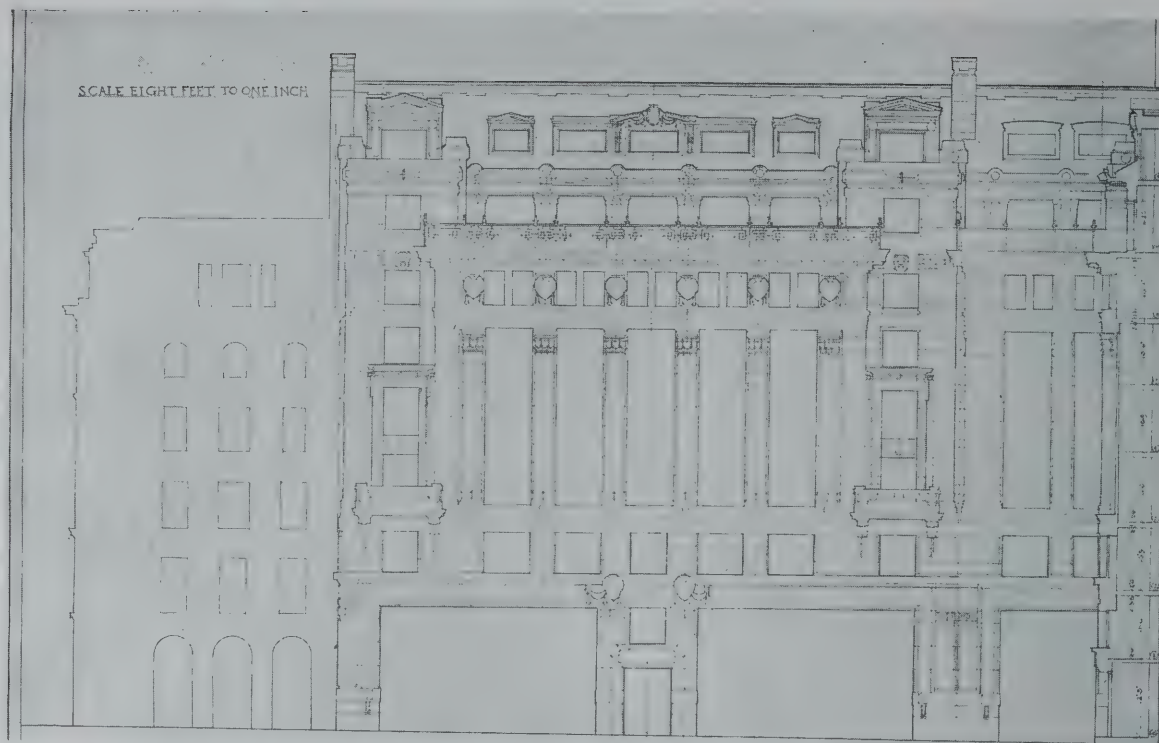
Kingsway, Aldwych and the Strand.



AFRICA HOUSE, KINGSWAY. MESSRS. TREHEARNE & NORMAN, Architects.



ELEVATION TO YORK HOUSE, KINGSWAY. MESSRS. TREHEARNE & NORMAN, Architects.

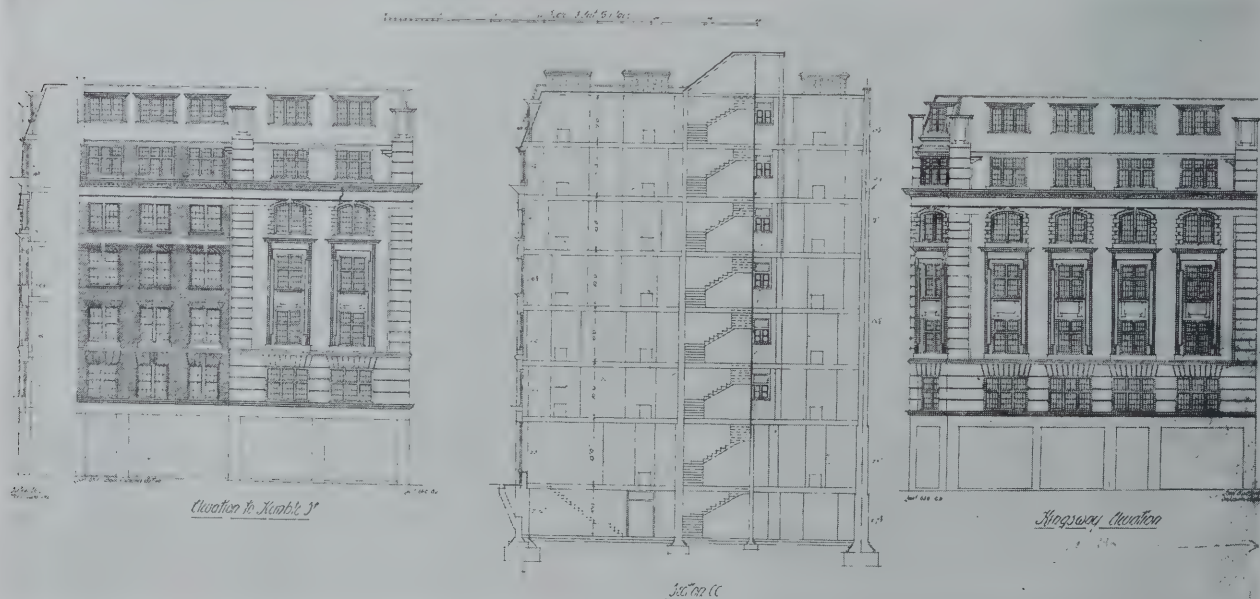


PREMISES IN KINGSWAY.

Recent experience in the building of new streets or the rebuilding of old ones should be a clear object-lesson to all of us that, in the words of the familiar saying, "We cannot have our cake and eat it." Old Regent Street was never the masterpiece which enthusiasts would have us believe, but simply an example of the harmony accruing from a simple design carried out consistently throughout the length of a great street. We have to-day at least half-a-dozen architects who, given the opportunity, could have exceeded Nash's effort and created a new and finer Regent Street, but in the interval since the era of Nash, the demands of individual leaseholders and not the general appearance of the street have become the paramount consideration. This, coupled with the greatly enhanced values of property and the necessity of earning or justifying large rents, and perhaps the ambition of the Crown advisers, has resulted in

giving us the new Regent Street which makes many of us regret the disappearance of Nash's work. We do not, as some do, consider that the new Regent Street is evidence of the bankruptcy of English architecture. We are not disposed to blame the professional advisers of the Crown, but we do consider that all have persistently considered it necessary to bow to a *force majeure* which possibly does not really exist, and we may all be wrong in assuming a ratio of expansion of trade and profits which can alone justify the great difference in scale between the old and the new.

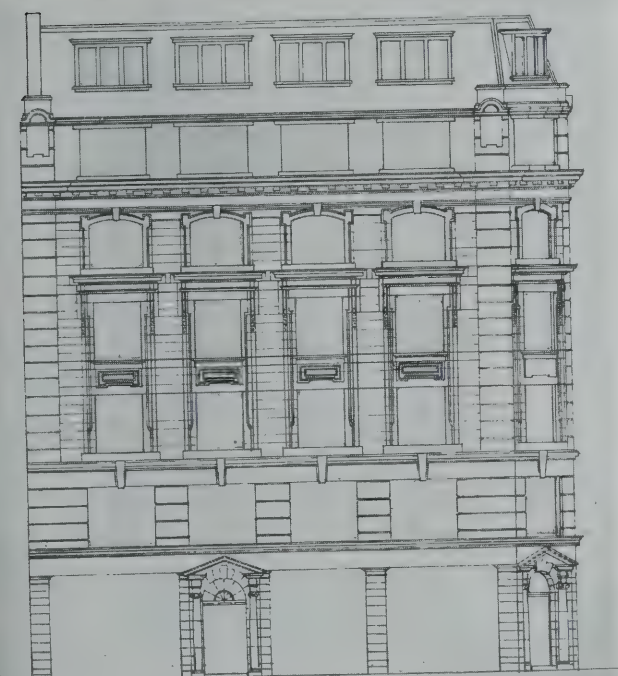
Bethis as it may, Kingsway was a somewhat different problem. Here there was no inherited legend, no sentiment to be cherished or brushed aside, but the problem of supplying London with a new and direct artery instead of a bungle of small streets, impossible for traffic under modern conditions. Business was not impatiently waiting for reconstruction, but chary



PREMISES IN KINGSWAY AT THE CORNER OF KEMBLE STREET. MESSRS. TREHEARNE & NORMAN, Architects.



KINGSWAY AND GREAT QUEEN STREET REVISED ELEVATION. MESSRS. TREHEARNE & NORMAN, Architect.



PREMISES IN KINGSWAY.

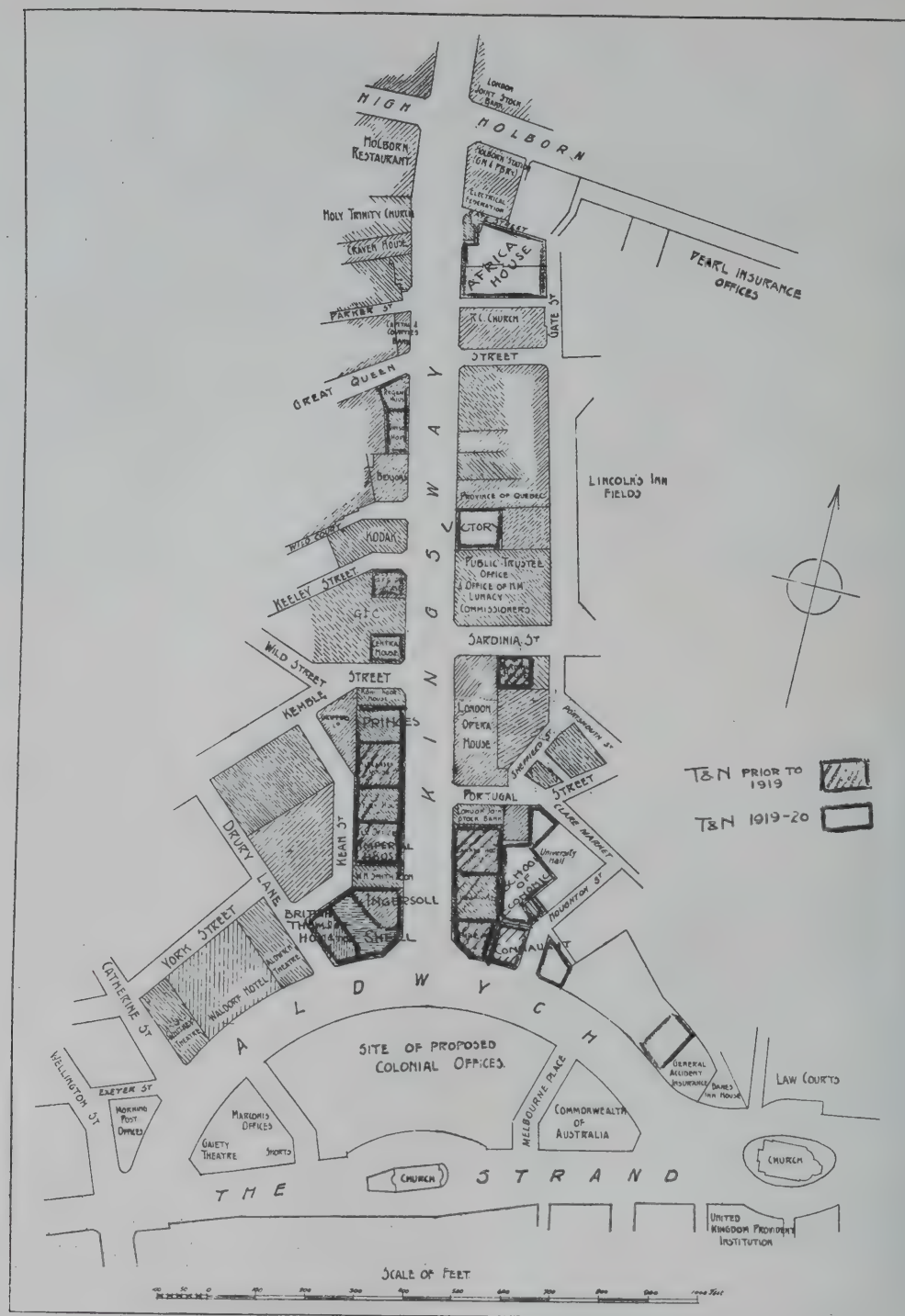
as to the possibilities which the new thoroughfare would afford.

The London County Council, which has shown commendable largeness of vision on most matters connected with London and its development, very reasonably instituted a limited competition to see in what manner it might be possible to obtain the advantages of a more or less uniform architectural design for Aldwych and Kingsway. But development along the sides of the two new streets was very slow and the London County Council had to relax their terms. In the end the compromise reached has given us a street with a certain measure of uniformity, a measure largely arising out of the fact that Messrs. Trehearne & Norman have been responsible for the greater proportion of the work carried out. Still the impress of individual ownership and not that of uniform design has been impressed on Kingsway. St. Anselm's Catholic Church, which replaced the older chapel of

the Sardinian Embassy, breaks the uniformity of the eastern side rather unfortunately, as it is badly out of scale with its immediate neighbours. The church of the Holy Trinity on the western side is more fortunate in its scale and character, and it must be hoped that Mr. Joass will have the opportunity of carrying out the very fine steeple which forms a part of the original design.

The chief departures from the general character of the street, given by the fact that it is largely the design of one firm of architects, is that afforded by Sir Edwin Lutyens' building on the west side and the Stoll Opera House further south, and the earlier buildings at the north end of the eastern side, together with Sir John Burnet's Kodak building, Mr. J. S. Gibson's Koh-i-noor premises and Mr. Frank Atkinson's General Electric Company's building. The most effective of Messrs. Trehearne & Norman's designs are those for the two buildings at the junction of Kingsway and Aldwych, the pavilion treatment of the topmost storeys being excellent. The great mass of Africa House is impressive from its size and importance, but as part of a general street composition we could have wished it had been possible to place it halfway down Kingsway instead of at one end of it.

Aldwych has been, on the whole, less fortunate than Kingsway, in that the nature of its development has been more casual and haphazard. Here, too, the crescent shape of the roadway seems to render the absence of a uniform design more regrettable than in Kingsway. The south-eastern segment of the curve is flanked at either end by the two theatres of mediocre design, the elevations of which were more or less modelled on the design of Mr. Hare's submitted in the County Council's competition, but the detail of the design is not inspiring. Between them we have the Waldorf Hotel, the front of which, though it has faults, is a good piece of work, and in this Messrs. Marshall Mackenzie & Sons have carried out one of the best of the hotels of London. On the other side of Aldwych is Sir John Burnet's large insurance office and a number of later commercial premises. The southern side of Kingsway is now almost completely either built on or allocated for buildings. The first of the sites to be built upon was the south-western corner, on which the new Gaiety Theatre, carried out by Mr. Runtz, with elevations generally



GENERAL PLAN OF ALDWYCH AND KINGSWAY.

designed by R. Norman Shaw. Despite its faults it possesses a largeness of scale and a refreshing freedom from littleness which characterises Shaw's work. The corresponding south-eastern corner is taken up by Australia House, the merits of which are obvious, and which reflects great credit on Messrs. Marshall Mackenzie & Son. It seems a thousand pities that the whole of the site could not have been occupied, as was suggested, by the buildings of the other Dominions and Colonies of the Empire, as it would have fittingly typified their essential unity as parts of a great national group; but it was not until the Bush Company took the centre of the site that the County Council finally found a tenant. Here we confess to a feeling of deep disappointment, for when we first saw the model prepared we believed that London would obtain a building of fine character, proportion, and mass. But the delicacy and refinement we had expected is wanting, and in spite of the favourable comment made on Bush House by many we consider its design crude and wanting

in charm. The great recessed porch, forming the axial end of Kingsway, in especial is crude and unpleasant, while the upper stages of the building are made awkward and unmeaning by the omission of the culminating feature shown in the model. The assertion that it was to be generally in character with Somerset House proves to us that some architects must see design with very different eyes to our own, for we can see no likeness in character between the two buildings, which we should say were as far apart as the poles.

The new widening of the Strand is an immense practical improvement, and here, again, Messrs. Trehearne & Norman are carrying out important buildings, one of which we illustrate. The Adam buildings to the west, the work of Messrs. Yates, Cook & Darbyshire, are very appropriate to their position and we should feel ourselves fortunate were this design to be continued up to Charing Cross. It presents, to our mind, a suggestion of a treatment which might well have been applied in rebuilding Regent Street.



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NEW PREMISES, CORNER OF THE STRAND AND WELLINGTON STREET, LONDON.

TREHEARNE & NORMAN, ARCHITECTS.

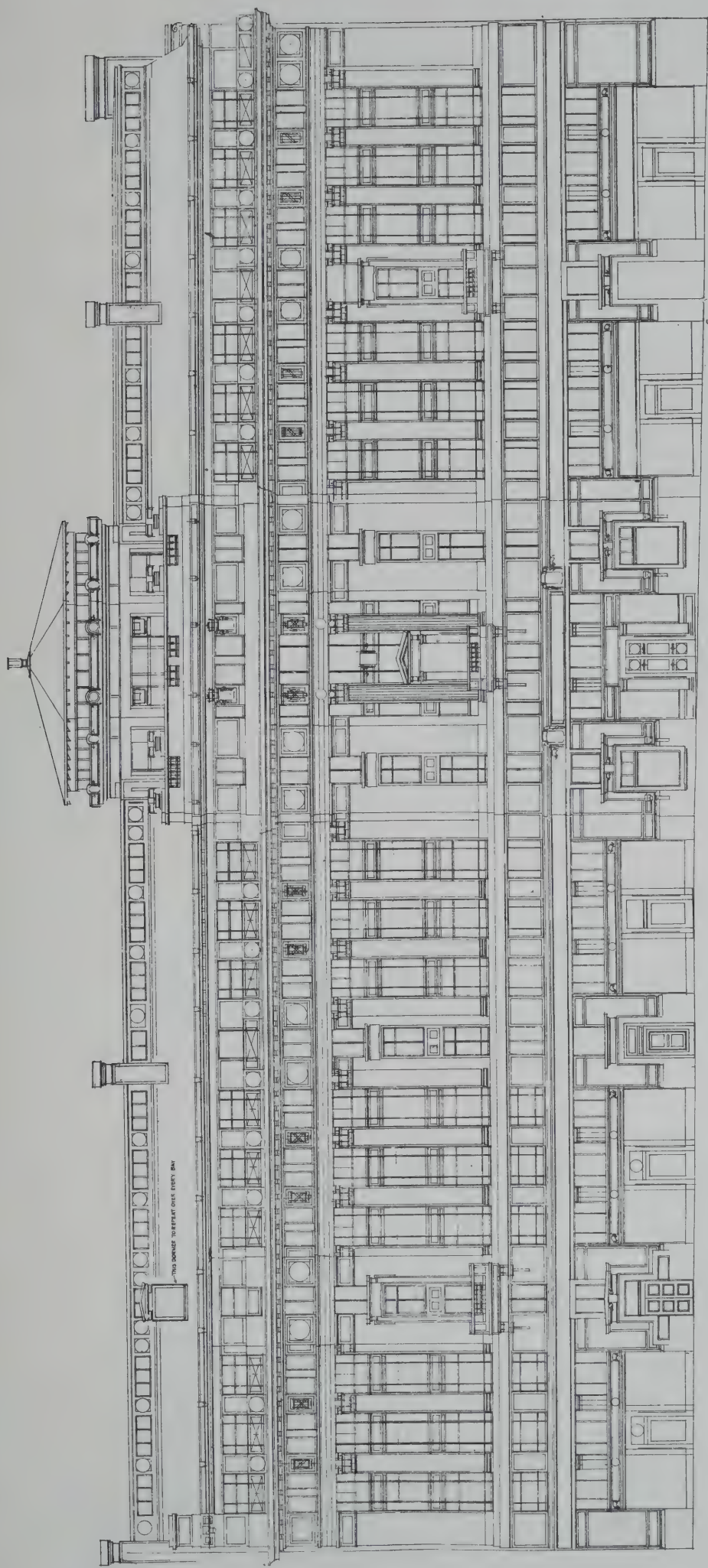
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EMPIRE HOUSE.
ELEVATIONS 'IN KINGSWAY AND ALDWYCH, LONDON.
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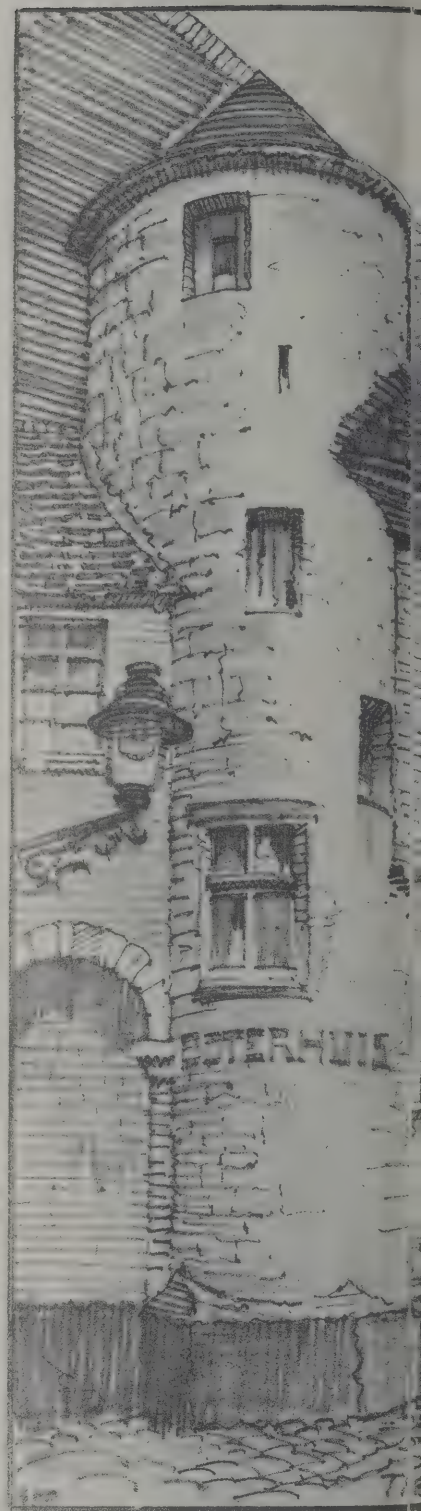


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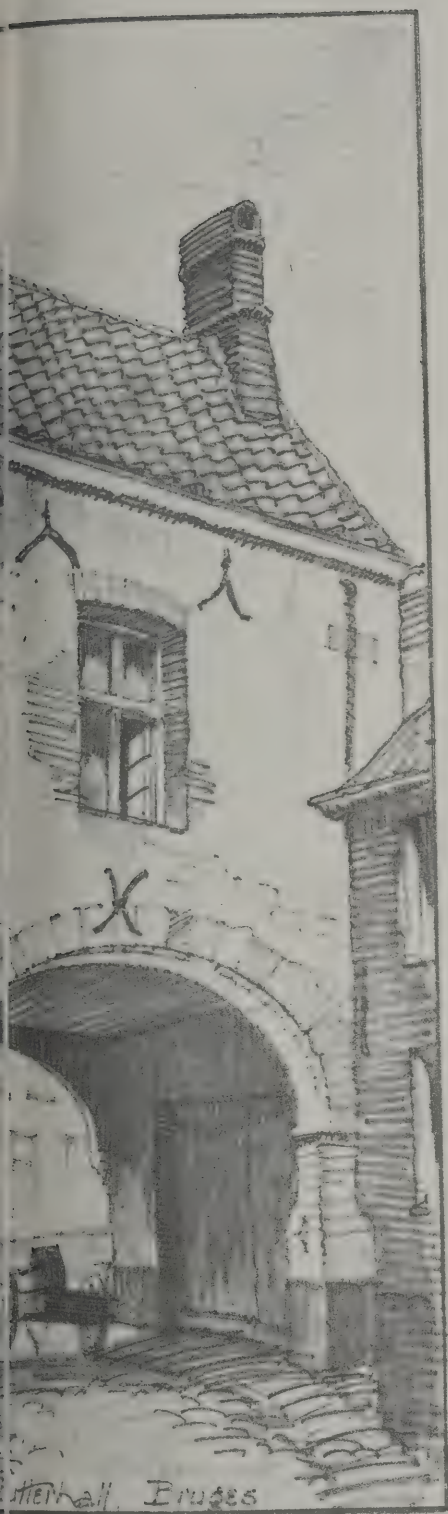
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RUE DE LA CHAISE, ANTWERP.



THE BUTTE DE LA CHAISE, ANTWERP.



Old Doorway, Bruges.



Old Doorway, Rue Haute, Antwerp.

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The new Tivoli Cinema Theatre is a good building, somewhat spoiled by the lavish display of advertisements, considered necessary for purposes of business. On the whole, commercial reconstruction in the Strand promises well.

Our general conclusions from all we can see are that there is no satisfactory halfway house between designing street frontages as a whole and the older haphazard system of allowing each owner to do what seems good in his own eyes, which will rarely be what is best for the street considered as a whole. What is wanted is not the abolition of private ownership, but a pooling of private interests for the common good, so that the existence of arbitrary boundaries need no longer hamper design. Street design, considered on broad lines, would involve the recognition of a suitable

ratio of voids and solids, the adoption of a proper unit for shop frontages and a common height for all buildings. But it is quite useless to blame our architects because they cannot produce the results seen elsewhere where broader standards are recognised, for these standards and not those of the individual skill of designers are in reality the governing factors. By the design of streets as a single whole the private owners would save much as the features needed would both be fewer and more effective. The lay-out of the hemicycle at Nancy, and that of much of Paris, would have been impossible under the English system, by which every building owner can do what is best in his own eyes, which frequently means the consideration of a portion of the street frontage as affording a somewhat marked opportunity for personal advertisement.

Our Illustrations.

NEW PREMISES, CORNER OF THE STRAND AND WELLINGTON STREET, LONDON.

NEW SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, LONDON.

ELEVATIONS IN THE KINGSWAY AND ALDWYCH. MESSRS. TREHEARNE & NORMAN, Architects.

RUE DE LA CHAISE, ANTWERP. THE BUTTERHALL, BRUGES. OLD DOORWAY, RUE HAUTE, ANTWERP.

From Pencil Drawings by G. H. COOK.

NEW PREMISES, CORNER OF WELLINGTON STREET AND STRAND, W.C.2.

We illustrate in this issue the new building erected at the corner of Strand and Wellington Street, the architects of which are Messrs. Trehearne & Norman, and the general contractors, Messrs. F. G. Minter, Ltd., of Putney. The building having three open frontages is excellently lighted, thus enhancing the value of the six upper floors for office accommodation, for which the building was designed. Two fast electric lifts have been installed, thus giving efficient service to all floors. The whole of the ground floor area will be occupied by shops. Constructionally, the work has been erected under the London Building Act 1894, and the floors are of the hollow tile type. The three fronts are faced with Portland stone, and in design a vertical treatment has been adopted and cornices eliminated. Internally, a similar simplicity has been the keynote, which is expressed in the entrance hall and staircase, where Bianca marble with Sienna bands has been used for the high dado up to the first floor. Above the first floor the dadoes are of fine Terrazzo, finished with a band of Ceramic cubes.

Notes and Comments.

A New Hotel in Paris.

A project is on foot for the erection of what will be the largest hotel in the world in Paris. The scheme is backed by a number of wealthy Chicago men, who propose to spend no less than four million pounds on its erection. Among the features contemplated and included in the scheme are a department for the purchase of dresses for those who are in haste and presumably can pay! a tropical roof garden, a skating rink and a swimming pool. The idea is an interesting one, but we expect that the suggestions here made will prove to be a little on the large size and that the scheme when it takes concrete form will be somewhat diminished in scale. At present it sounds like an Arabian Nights fable!

A Suggested Migration to Bloomsbury.

The "Daily Express" states what we know to be true; that is, that large houses in the West of London are being cut up and converted into flats and maisonettes, but goes on to say what we do not know and rather question. It states that Bloomsbury, which for thirty years has been an arid waste of boarding houses, is coming to its own once more as a residential quarter. We cannot say that we have seen many evidences of the suggested migration and should have thought that the movement was all the other way. Bloomsbury Square itself will have one side formed by one of the biggest business buildings in London and similar changes are taking place elsewhere in the district. We should be glad to believe the contrary, but facts point too strongly in the other direction.

Oxford Town Planning.

A town planning scheme for Oxford is under consideration and should prove a most interesting task to those who compile it. Efficient regulation is certainly needed, for while old Oxford is beautiful and endeared to all by its association, new Oxford, and especially the district round the railway station, is even more depressing and ugly than the outskirts of many other towns of less fame. We have recently had a new book on Oxford sent us which we shall review in due course, but in which the author condemns in no measured terms the new Town Hall, which he likens to the attempt of a vulgar woman to attract notice by the richness of her dress. Such criticism shows us how little many people understand architectural matters, for whether we like it or not, Mr. Hare's work at Oxford could never be fittingly described as being vulgar. It is, as a matter of fact, a good rendering of the free Renaissance type which we see in many of the old colleges, and if it were, like them, hallowed by association, it would probably earn an equal meed of praise. We have heard it argued that the architecture of the city should be sharply differentiated from that of its colleges, a contention which does not appeal to us as being reasonable. Hare was always far more in sympathy with the freer and more picturesque types of building than with those which are more formal and his best work is, we should say, to be found at Oxford and Stafford, rather than elsewhere, and his best work has much to recommend it despite the changed standards of to-day. We might add that more than one of the Oxford colleges would meet with severe criticism were they not covered by the mantle of time.

Witton's Suburban Villa.

There are some men who sincerely believe that builders conceal their machinations behind a trade "ring" and, by battenning upon an innocent public, demand a heavy recompense for the privilege of laying one brick upon another brick. Witton was one of these men with this idea so firmly fixed in his mind that it became an obsession.

Disclaiming any architectural assistance or advice, he laid out some money upon a set of plans for a villa that he intended erecting in the suburbs, and had been keenly disappointed because not one builder had the decency—and he had approached many—to give him a price that would square with his preconceived estimate. Hence his scheme remained unmaterialised, much to his mortification.

"It is not the slightest use," I said to him one day after the twentieth price had been received, and they were all about the same; "you must pay, until——"

"Until builders cease to act in collusion," he interrupted with a disagreeable growl.

I examined him closely to see if he was sincere in his theory.

"You are not one of those who believe in that illogical tale," I said.

"I do believe it," he replied stubbornly, "and what is more, I'll prove it by having the work carried out at *my* own price."

To argue with a man whose opinions were so biased, and whose ideas so firmly fixed, was useless; so I left him. Perhaps it was owing to the habit he had of buying in the lowest market and selling in the highest possible that caused his notions to be so nonsensical and unbusinesslike.

A year went by before I met him again.

"Any nearer to the consummation of your hopes?" I asked jokingly. "Have the builders turned honest and ceased to act in collusion?"

He gave me a stare of virtuous indignation. "To tell you the truth, Dobbs, I do not care now," he replied with commendable detachment. "All I know is that I have had my villa built."

He looked into my incredulous face with eyes that had a triumphant gleam in them, as one whose doubts had been amply justified.

"At your own price?" I ejaculated, raising my eyebrows in astonishment.

He nodded his head in the affirmative. "Got a new man as yet undefiled," he answered complacently. "I discarded the specification as a useless encumbrance, deleted the central heating, and told him to use his judgment in several things. I felt that I could trust him. He is a willing man with great respect for me. My wife and I have been in two months now. You would be surprised how many people have swarmed about me, like bees round the honey pot, to know how I did it. I could have sold the house a dozen times over, and made a considerable profit."

I was dumfounded, and it took me quite a minute to recover my self-possession.

"I can see in this game quite a nice turnover," he continued covetously. "If I can get hold of about a dozen people who are thirsting for houses, I shall be able to clear £1,000 in one year, free from income tax."

Now here was a case of a man who, whilst begrudging a builder his legitimate profits, was going to outdo the trade and make money at it.

"My builder is willing to go on at the old rate," Witton continued in the same strain. "He'll give me a price, and I'll stick on 20 per cent. for financing him. Rather a cute idea! Look here, Dobbs, I'm having a house-warming next week at which a lot of people, who are hungering for houses, have been invited. Will you come, too? We shall be delighted. Even *you* might be persuaded to build on my plan when you see the house. Of course, for old friends, I wouldn't add the 20 per cent. Do come."

I thanked him for his consideration and accepted the invitation, not that he was a very admirable friend, but because I had a curious wish to see what he had got for his money.

"Not evening dress," were the last words as we parted.

I was at first rather impressed with the appearance of Witton's villa. There was no sloppy sentimentality about it—not the slightest, only an English-looking rural domicile to suit modern practice and convenience. As I came within range, the cherry-coloured red roof was the first part of the house to offer a generous benediction, and I am quite sure that there was quite a rivalry between it and the walls as to which could cast the most alluring spell. The combination spoke the right kind of precept "to be straightforward, tell the truth, and shame the devil," which builders, had they not been so impregnable, would have taken seriously to heart and been the better for this moral text.

Quite a number of expectant couples were there, mostly young bloods anxious to marry and be the progenitors of the next generation, if they could get a house. They dawdled speechbound round the villa, headed by Witton, as if unable to find words vehement enough to express the thoughts that the elevation evoked. It seemed to me to be an achievement in the art of building, in which the maximum of dryness had been achieved with the minimum of mortar.

At last Witton concluded an eloquent discourse on the advantage of owning your house and the evils of paying rent to a landlord, and then invited everyone inside. The interior of the house had not the same attractions as the outside; but there were other surprising things that made up for this drawback. The floor of the drawing room seemed uncertain which skirting board to ally itself to, as it appeared to rock on some centre support below, which Witton assured the intelligent guests was a spring floor upon which dancing could be pursued in the winter.

After being conducted over the whole house, amid remarks of appreciation, we came to the eggshell-coloured dining room, and here there was just room enough for everybody when packed closely round the table. Sitting opposite me in front of some wavy-looking plastering that appeared to be suffering from a few inflammatory tumours, sat a man with a "save all" kind of face, who spoke little. In fact his words were out of place in a room of frivolous people. He had large, flap-like ears that seemed keenly appreciative of all the ravishing things that were expressed in his hearing about the house. Who he was I did not know—probably a relative of Witton's, who had "uncles" in the accommodating line I understood.

After dinner Witton stood upon his feet and expressed the great pleasure he and his wife had derived from our company.

"This beautiful edifice," he said in a touching voice, "is a monument of chaste beauty, self-restrained expression, and elegance. I have a friend here"—he looked hard at the fat man opposite to me—"who has proved himself a benefactor, and I thank my stars that I met him. He is the contractor of my house, and what he does not know about builders and their extortions is not worth knowing. We poor devils have had to pay over the coals until now. He wisely refrains from having any truck with a 'ring'" —the fat man nodded modestly—"therefore, follow my example and build now."

Just at that moment an alarming noise sounded overhead, making everyone start, as if a stone or two of potatoes had been dropped from a height.

"If you would trust Mr. Binns," continued Witton, "with your new houses, he is always at your service, up to the hilt in pushfulness."

Witton again looked at the builder, who modestly dropped his eyes to the table and then raised them piously to the ceiling.

"When my wife and I decided to build a house," continued Witton, inspired by the impression he had made, "a house that would be snug——" He paused, for just then there was an audible sensation that seemed to come from the corner of the room, which could be felt by the feet, and I distinctly saw a thin line run from the ceiling to the floor. It was a crack in the plaster. Mr. Binns smiled complacently. "A little settlement," he said, as if answering

the queries of the guests; "the bricklayer's fault."

"As I was saying," continued Witton, with a side glance of uneasiness and in a voice that shook slightly from the intensity of his emotion, "we wished for a place to call our very own. Thanks to Mr. Binns, our hopes have been amply realised. Now Mr. Binns will be happy, not as an act of charity, but as a business transaction, to do the same good turn to you as he has to me. I——"

Just then the maid rushed into the room; her face was ashen, and her eyes stood from her cheeks like billiard balls, whilst she plucked at the door, so enthralled were her emotions.

"Please, sir!" she cried, in a voice that must have made the hearts of all ring out in sympathy, "the water pipes is twisting and turning about in the kitchen like snakes."

All the guests were at once filled with dread and looked from the servant girl to Binns as the only person who could offer a satisfactory explanation.

"Binns, do you hear that?" cried Witton incredulously, whilst his jaw hung down. "Excuse me," he exclaimed, as he hurriedly left his post and squeezed past the guests with an hysterical laugh and trembling hands. Binns followed him out of the room, and I followed Binns. As a precaution against any zoological specimens intruding into the dining room from the kitchen and frightening the guests, I closed the door with difficulty, because the servant girl had given it a wrench.

Witton reluctantly peered into the kitchen, and Binns, half afraid, peeped over his shoulder, whilst I looked over Binns's shoulder. It was true; the water pipes were squirming and twisting in sinuous folds.

"Do something, man, can't you!" cried Witton impatiently, glaring at Binns, who remained motionless in helpless wonder.

Binns scratched his head, and then, as if inspired with a thought, flew to the taps and turned on the water, and as it ran away, the pipes commenced to uncoil.

"The lead's too thin—the plumber's fault," he said, "and besides——"

"The water's too hot in the pipes, I suppose!" interrupted Witton with an ugly sneer.

We tried to push the pipes back into their place again, but once having gained their liberty, they were very reluctant to return to captivity.

"What am I to think of this?" cried Witton to Binns, in a hoarse whisper. "We'd better not let anyone know, or else we're done."

He ran out of the kitchen to assure the guests that the servant girl was suffering from some kind of delusion, and tried to open the door of the dining room, but it appeared to be locked.

"Open the door!" he shouted impatiently.

"We can't; it's stuck tight!" replied the voice of Mrs. Witton.

No amount of persuasion would open the door. Witton looked to Binns for an explanation.

"The door's jammed," Binns replied with a red face. "It's the joiner's fault."

We ran outside, headed by Witton, and by means of the dining room window aided the guests to jump into the garden, and as we were returning into the house a volley of concrete tiles fell from the roof, like the avalanche on the snowy slopes of the Alps, disturbed by the clamour of voices, and smashed themselves into a million fragments on the cement footpath. Had we remained a moment longer, a sad death would have assuredly been our portion. The ladies screamed and paled at the marvellous escape from a deplorable extinction, and flew upstairs to get on their things before anything else happened.

"I suppose it's the slater's fault," said Witton to Binns in a satirical tone.

Just then cries of woe and distress rent the air. We ran upstairs. I had never seen such a mess. The ceiling of the bedroom had tumbled down, and everything was covered with plaster. This was the noise we had heard. As the ladies shook the dust from their hats, which appeared to be

their best ones and probably would be ruined, Witton turned to Binns for an explanation.

"The plasterer's to blame for this," said Binns.

"The plasterer be hanged!" cried Witton, stamping his feet in fierce anger, whilst he emitted a volley of choice words appropriate to the occasion. Just when he had attained the summit of his eloquence, a floor board upon which he was standing, which had been very economically nailed, tilted up, and he disappeared into the room below.

We could see through the hole in the floor that he was not hurt. Fortunately, he had landed on a dish of succulent trifle and some choice viands, which adhered to him as he got off the table, crawled towards the door and wrenched at the handle to get out. When he found that the door was still stuck fast his face became horribly distorted, and from between his teeth, as if chewing an imaginary foe, came the word "B-I-N-N-S." When Binns heard it, he shook with terror and ran downstairs, not to succour Witton, but to selfishly save himself, and as he scooted out of the front door, Witton dived out of the dining room window at the same time, armed with a bunch of Canary bananas with which to fell the fugitive. But there was no need to use this formidable weapon upon such a contemptible creature, for at that moment Binns, in taking a short cut across the garden, fell prostrate, his foot having caught in a small hole in the ground.

No words could possibly describe a scene of such exquisite drama. There stood Witton with arm poised in the act of hurling the bananas, and Binns lying prone, to all appearance dead. It was awe inspiring. Tears began to course down Witton's cheeks as he gazed at the unfortunate man. Just then Binns began to move, and Witton's face became hard and fixed like a stone image.

"The excavator's to blame for this," Binns moaned, rubbing himself.

"I agree heartily with you there, Binns," cried Witton. "He is very much to blame for not making the hole six feet long and ten feet deep."

"You are funny, Mr. Witton," said Binns.

What might have happened is another story. Just then the ladies, with their companions, came hastily streaming from the house, some with umbrellas up, some with cloaks over their heads, and as they passed Witton they gave utterance to things that were not exactly complimentary to the building trade.

As Binns slunk away, Witton fell into his wife's arms, and they both wept. Soon they retreated into the house, no doubt anxious to escape another cascade of roof tiles, and as they did so I went away too.

J. E. REID.

Period Plaster Decorations.

Messrs. Boekbinders, Ltd., bought the assets of Boekbinders & Sons, Ltd., and subsequently acquired the firm of Battiscombe & Harris, Ltd. These circumstances enable the company to offer to the architectural profession an extensive collection of moulds and plaques, illustrating a wide range of decorative work. The collection is of a very comprehensive and exclusive character.

Messrs. Boekbinders claim to be specialists in all descriptions of period plaster decoration. They are greatly assisted in their work by possessing a library of rare old French and other reference books.

The company's policy is to employ only craftsmen. They would be pleased to receive architects at their extensive works at 41 Lower Kennington Lane, at any time. Such a visit would undoubtedly repay in many ways every minute devoted to the inspection.

Tenders for the proposed work at Sir Walter St. John's School, Battersea, have been received by the architect, Mr. A. Heron Ryan Tenison, F.R.I.B.A., and the tender of Messrs. John Willmot & Sons, Builders, at £10,542, has been accepted by the Governors, subject to the approval of the Board of Education and London County Council. Sixteen firms in all tendered.

Picturesque Corners of Savoy.

A Town, a Village and a Hamlet.

By H. A. J. LAMB, A.R.I.B.A.



CHAMBERY: VIEW OF THE RUE DE BOIGNE.



CHAMBERY: PORTAL DE ST. DOMINIQUE.

It would require a much longer holiday than a fortnight to exhaust all the towns and villages surrounding Annecy. Time did not permit of a visit to Aix-les-Bains, that town of fashion and baths, which gained fame in Roman times, so that I am perforce obliged to omit more than a passing reference to it.

To conclude, I propose to give a brief description of two very interesting trips within easy reach of Annecy. The town, which can be reached by rail, is Chambéry, thirty miles away. The village, Confians, above Albertville, the

hamlet, Roselend, a tiny collection of cottages among the mountains north-east of Albertville.

Chambéry, the ancient capital and now chief town of the Savoy, is extremely busy and up to date.

Its best street, the Rue de Boigne, has a fine series of modern arcades down both sides, for the greater part of its length, in strong contrast to the old and rugged archways of Annecy. The vista at one end is closed by a monumental fountain, in memory of General Boigne, who died in 1830, after having amassed a big fortune in the East Indies, a great part of which he spent for the improvement of Chambéry, his native town. The memorial takes the form of a howdah in white marble, with the forequarters of an elephant cast in bronze on each of its four faces; these are particularly realistic; the water flows from their trunks. Unfortunately, the upper part of the monument is spoilt by a column, not unlike a lighthouse in shape, carved with a pineapple leaf effect, which rears itself from the centre of the howdah—on the top of this is perched a figure of the General.

At the other end is the Château of the Dukes of Savoy, an imposing building dating from the thirteenth century in its oldest parts, three of the towers and the chapel being the only parts to escape a disastrous fire in 1798.

Entrance to the Château, of which parts are now occupied by the Prefecture and the military, and a Natural History Museum, can be gained up a stepped and cobbled path through a fine fifteenth century gateway, the Portail de St. Dominique, parts of which were restored at the end of the nineteenth century. Turning to the left is the Sainte Chapelle, built in 1415, which contains beautifully painted glass in its lancet windows.

Passing down the Rue Croix d'Or several fine old doorways will be noticed; that illustrated leads through to the Cathedral, of the fourteenth century, a somewhat unimposing building, badly proportioned. The main entrance under an elaborately moulded double doorway is also disappointing.

Confians and Roselend can be combined into a day's trip by motor-car from Annecy.

Confians, the oldest part of Albertville (25 miles from Annecy), dates from the earliest Roman times, and is situated on a rocky hill about two miles out. Entrance to its narrow streets with old tumbledown houses is through a narrow archway. Originally a fortress, it resisted the attacks of



CHAMBERY: VIEW OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF ST. CHAPELLE.

Francis I in the war of 1536, when it was partly burnt and its two parts demolished. It was subsequently captured by Lesdiguières in 1600. The twelfth century convent and old château of the dukes of the Savoy are now utilised as barracks. Its houses seem part falling into decay, a few have their walls strengthened by arches thrown across, others are fast being covered by undergrowth. Continuing on from Albertville *via* Beaufort the tiny little hamlet of Roselend can eventually be gained, after a drive of extraordinary beauty and wonder of some sixteen miles, the latter part of it from Beaufort through the pine and larch woods up seemingly unending loops and bends, on a road with a fairly good surface, but one which is a severe test to a motor-car and its driver, since on any of its bends one is likely to encounter the timber wagons of the foresters. Arriving at Roselend, on a plateau amongst the snow-capped mountains, one might almost have been transported to some village in Switzerland. This tiny place, a centre for climbing, consists of one hotel, the only modern building, and a cluster of chalets surrounding the church.

All are extremely roughly built; the chalets, some in stone, some of timber, with stone-slatted roofs, held down by baulks of timber and stones, are extraordinarily picturesque, with a backing of flower-carpeted slopes covering the lower foothills to the higher mountains; dotted about are herds of cows tethered in lines, each with a tinkling bell. If the weather be clear the snow-clad peaks of Mont Blanc complete the picture.

The miniature church of St. Marie Madeleine, with rough stone walling, stone-slatted roof and tiny bellcote, has the most primitive interior I have yet seen. About 60 feet by 30 feet, it is paved with rough unwrought planks; down the full length of each side runs a tiny gallery about 4 feet 6 inches from the ground and reached by step-ladders of rough planking. The front of the gallery is very simply filled in with pine balustrading, the body of the church is lit by two small windows, the seats consist of low benches, and might have been taken from some kindergarden, being only raised 6 inches from the ground.

The tiny chancel, lit by one small window, about 12 inches square, on the south wall, is cut off from the rest of the church by a heavily barred screen painted green, so that it is with difficulty one can see the dimly lit altar behind; standing by the entrance is a block of stone, rudely hollowed, doing justice as a holy water stoup.

Of my visit to this part of the Savoy the old archways of Annecy and this little mountain hamlet of Roselend make two of the most delightful impressions, which perhaps will affect others who may in the future cover the same ground.



CONFLANS, NEAR ALBERTVILLE: OLD HOUSE.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1875.

THE KING'S CROSS TERMINUS.

For some time past extensive works of a varied character have been in progress at the King's Cross terminus of the Great Northern Railway. They include the construction of additional station accommodation on the west side, for the local and metropolitan traffic, and consist of a new covered area running almost entirely the length of the main station. This contains two spacious platforms, and two lines of rails for traffic. It is approached from the main line platforms by two side passages, about 16 feet in width, the walls of which are faced with glazed white, red, and blue brick. There is also an approach to this part of the station at the south end, where new booking offices have been erected. New offices have been also erected for the general manager's department, together with the inspectors' and other offices. The new station room has just been completed and opened, and the offices are in an advanced state. Still a little further to the west a large engine shed has been erected, whilst close by is a building of a somewhat novel character in connection with railways, which has been erected by the directors for the use of the employés of the company. This consists of a temperance-hall, in which meetings are held three times a week, when addresses are delivered by the officers and servants enrolled in the Company's temperance organisation, and also by other persons who are from time to time invited to take part in the proceedings of the meetings.

A large refreshment and dining-room is in course of construction on the west side of the main line station. In order to obtain the required area several of the offices of the Company have been thrown into it, and the apartment is now about 52 feet square. The walls and ceiling will be panelled, the latter coved, and supported by consoles consisting of the figures of griffins. A richly-carved and paneled dado is carried round the walls of the apartment to the height of about 4 feet, whilst an elaborately ornamented screen separates the refreshment department from the dining-room. The contractors for the work are Messrs. Cubitt & Co.

"Machine-made" Dwellings.

Results of the Taylor System in France.

While English opinion is agitated over the Weir steel—or wooden—house, French interest in the possibilities of machine-made dwellings is beginning to seriously manifest itself. This awakening attention was reflected in an important debate that took place in Paris a few days ago at a meeting of the Society of Civil Engineers.

The apparent impossibility of finding a rapidly realisable solution for the housing crisis is calculated to reconcile the artistic temperament of the average Frenchman to an application of machinism, aesthetically repugnant in normal times. It also furnishes a convincing argument to the mechanical technician who naturally favours integral industrialisation. The urgent need of habitations has a tendency, indeed, which, however welcome as a stimulus to prompt action, may in particular cases like this disarm and weaken the enlightened criticism of specialists who ordinarily protect people from a confusion between desires and realities.

Be that as it may, the machine-made house has actually a "good press" here. This fact should not be ignored even by those who question its desirability. It is expedient, therefore, to note what is being said and done in a purely objective spirit.

M. Petitjean, an authority on the question, made a very clear and comprehensive communication to his fellow engineers on the application of mechanical and industrial methods in the domain of the dwelling. The *leitmotiv* of this lecture was the necessity of a radical change of the old and still surviving system of building. To lower the cost price at present paralysing construction it was, he said, indispensable to employ a cheaper material and a less specialised labour.

Steam shovels and pneumatic demolition tools, currently utilised in connection with foundations and excavations, were the forerunners of the new régime. Beton and concrete, in combination with a steel skeleton provided the means of furnishing a solid and economic armature, totally suppressing the rôle of the wall as a support. Compressed air enabled beton to be raised to any possible height, and new cements existed which dried completely in four days instead of three weeks.

Under these circumstances the walls are transformed from supports to simple screens. They serve exclusively as a shelter against cold, heat and humidity. The double wall of the frigorific chamber is an ideal invention in this respect. Its air mattress is a most successful shield against the alternatives of temperature. Numerous mechanical means can be chosen for its construction.

Substantial economies were to be effected by the use, for interior installations, of cheap metallic doors and windows obtained by large-scale production. *Flat* could be easily substituted for *sloping* roofs, which absorb so large a percentage of the price of construction. The flat roofs had the advantage not only of being very much cheaper but of rendering any future addition to the height of the house easy and less expensive.

TAYLOR SYSTEM OF COTTAGE CONSTRUCTION.

M. Petitjean devoted a part of his remarks to the labourer's and working man's cottage, which in particular needed the realisation of what he called the "essential reform." The latter he defined as the reduction of the number of trades co-operating in the construction to "one and the same house," and limiting the operations to the assemblage of "normal elements" by the fewest possible number of non-specialists rapidly trained to this work.

A remarkable achievement of Michelin & Cie, the famous tyre makers of Clermont-Ferrand, was signalised as an example of what was practicable. They had adapted the celebrated American-Taylor system to the construction of their working men's homes. The undertaking had been divided up into 50 distinct operations, which were accomplished "in a chain" one after the other. For each of them a special staff of workers had been drilled and

instructed, with the result that the number of real tradesmen had been considerably reduced. The latter represented only 9 per cent. of the total personnel employed, the labourers specially trained attaining 53 per cent. and the ordinary unskilled labourers 38 per cent.

A VISIT TO EDISON'S WORKS.

An animated discussion was provoked by M. Petitjean's paper. The most remarkable contribution emanated from M. Augustin Rey, whose knowledge and experience has been widened by foreign research. To emphasise the social bearing of the question, M. Rey reminded his hearers that the construction of dwellings both in respect of the framework and the contents absorbs 62 per cent. of the total labour of the country. Architects and builders are bound to introduce more and more, in the exercise of their respective functions, the latest acquisitions of science and hygiene.

He described a visit paid by him many years ago to Edison's factory in America, where the great inventor showed him designs for the mass production of dwellings with erection on the sites. An immense mould, uniting in it the whole house—formed of steel plates fitting into each other hermetically—reproduced in minute detail the entire construction. A cement of special composition, "taking" half-slowly, had been created which—after the erection of the frame—was injected under a pressure of several atmospheres into all parts of the mould, special precautions being taken to exclude all possibility of the formation and survival of air bubbles. The walls were hollow and "calculated according to anti-heatlosing formulas," as well as the floors and the terraces replacing the roofing. With the exception of the movable woodwork absolutely everything was created, as if by magic, in this mould, into which matter had been everywhere forced under pressure. These shells were so studied as to permit variations at will of the type of the habitation so as to suit, when necessary, the needs of even the gayest garden city. Commands were received by tens of thousands, and in this way the great American centres had sprung up with astonishing rapidity.

The facts thus presented made a marked impression. At the same time it was recognised that the realisation of any such system in France would encounter, at the outset at least, both passive and active resistance. Those, however, who were least inclined to admit anything more than a limited and strictly defined introduction of the machine-made house recognised the expediency of examining its possibilities at once in the most sympathetic spirit. In this investigation the architect and builder must play a part no less authoritative than that of the civil engineer.

W. W. O'MAHONY.

Regent Street Rents.

In replying to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Wood, the Minister of Agriculture, stated that the rents from the new Regent Street amounted to about £450,000 in place of the former rental of £26,383, an increase of £424,000. Though the area last taken includes a few rear properties which are not in Regent Street, the above figures give an indication of the enormous appreciation of values which has taken place in Central London. We must all hope that the new rentals will not prove too onerous for the tenants, and that they may be accepted as accurate evidence of increased value. It is, we suppose, quite impossible to determine whether site values in such a district have reached their climax, or whether on the termination of the new leases there is any possibility of another and equal leap in values, in which case the rentals would amount to something over £7,000,000. We are inclined to believe that from now onward we are not likely to see the geometrical scale of appreciation which has occurred in the past.

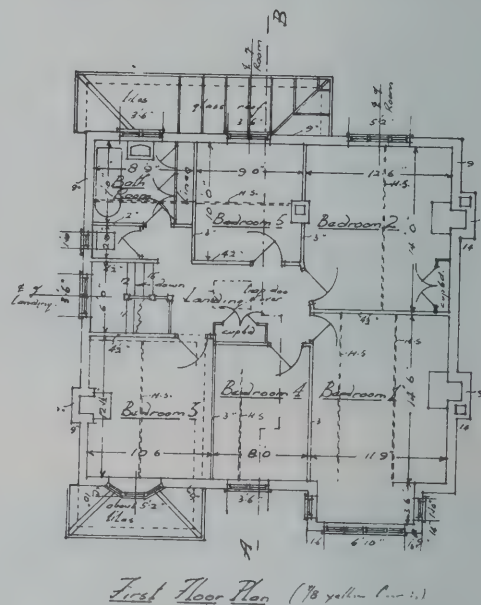
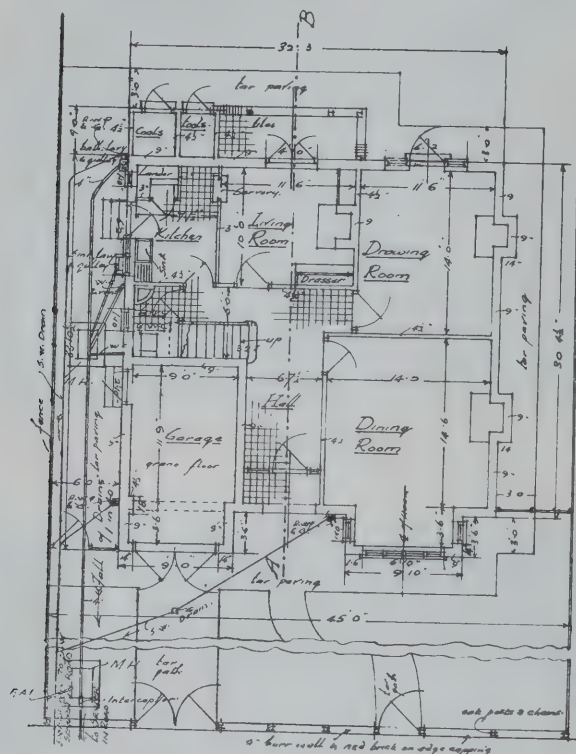
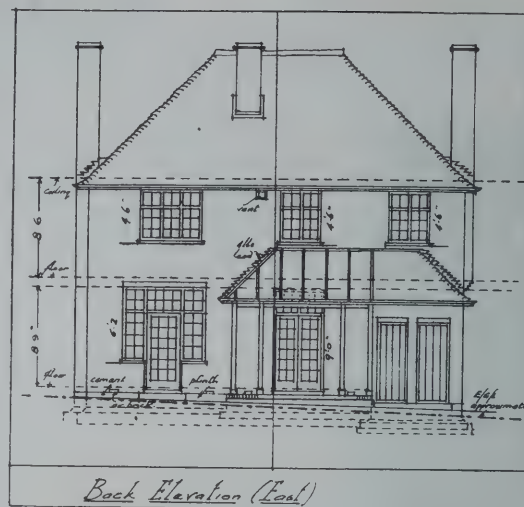
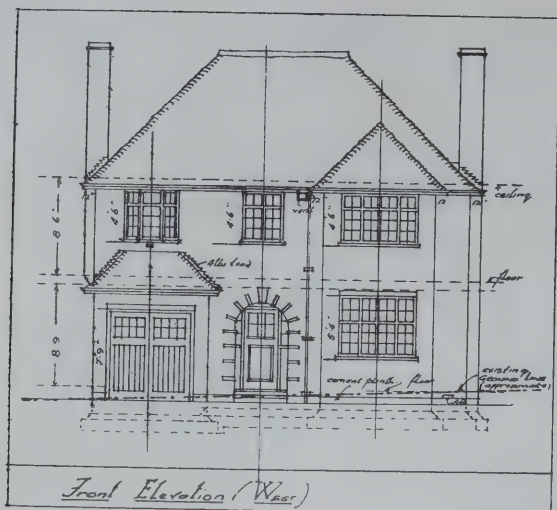
HAREFIELD.—Middlesex Education Committee are to erect an infants' block at the Harefield elementary school at a cost of £7,830.



AN INTERIOR. By G. ALAN FORTESCUE, Architect.



HOUSE IN THE ENGADINE: INTERIOR, SHOWING VAULTED CEILING.



HOUSE IN GREYSTONE GARDENS, HARROW. EUGENE C. BEAUMONT & SON, Architects.

Overcrowding.

By Percy L. Marks, F.J.I.

My purpose within is not to deal with the housing question, but with the over-population of certain occupations, a question whose solving is one that may be regarded as of the highest value. I do not suggest that I have discovered the panacea, nor that the latter is of necessity discoverable, but the question is decidedly worthy of consideration.

Some of the trades themselves—the artisan trades, that is—are not over-populated to-day; but some of the professions and certain of the commercial branches of occupation are painfully overcrowded. Indeed, it is the plethora in the body of the architectural profession (to which the Royal Institute of British Architects recently devoted some attention) that has inspired me to write a few words upon the subject in its wider aspects.

And firstly, consider the cause of the overcrowding of the architectural profession. There are so many schools and classes devoted wholly and solely to this purpose that, despite the numerous failures amongst the students (and many of those may regard failure as but a thinly-veiled blessing) the numbers that pass the test do but swell the ranks of a business (for it is a business quite as much as it is a profession) beyond all possibility of there being adequate

bread-and-butter supply for those who are launched upon a life's career.

I do not forget that of recent years an architects' assistants' trade union has been formed, the outcome of recognition that conditions of employment were far from desirable. In former days the pay of the architect's assistant was deplorable, even when the then relative cheapness of living is remembered. For the architect knew that the market (even in those days) was overstocked and that there was no difficulty in obtaining competent assistance for inadequate remuneration (remuneration, let us say, such as Costard received in "Love's Labour Lost"). It was somewhat, but not entirely, similar to domestic service conditions in far bygone days. But now, with the growth and increase of architectural schools, the evil has become intensified.

Another cause of the overstocking of the profession (or business) is the unfortunate view held by some parents that a certain flabby taste for drawing is a sign of fitness on the part of the fledgling. And a third cause is the consideration that "architecture is such a gentlemanly profession," a profession where the "chief" can boss around, doing very little work, giving orders as to what

he wants to be done—the kind of notions, in fact, that Martin Chuzzlewit held. And still a fourth cause is that parents and guardians, holding the view that people *must* have houses wherein to dwell, must have architects to design them; an idea of which we all recognise the falsity.

It was during the late and (in most ways) unfortunate war that we learnt to appreciate the sanctity and value of labour—a value and sanctity which, in the course of the years that have elapsed since the advent of the so-called peace, have become once again depreciated.

It is not, however, the ranks of architects alone that are overcrowded, though it is one of the worst instances for consideration. It is a fact that the somewhat selfish policy of certain of the trade unions has prevented overcrowding from becoming a bugbear; in fact understocking is the trouble. We know that at the present time there is a dearth of bricklayers, and this is certainly partially due to the selfish policy of the trade union in regard to the question of apprenticeship. And though I would not advocate such a relaxation of the policy as would tend to bring about an overcrowding in the trade, yet there are two things to be said: (1) that people should be ever ready to exercise the happy medium, and (2) that in the present state of the housing question the overcrowding of the bricklayer's trade is not within the range of practical consideration.

But we know that, even so, a vast amount of unemployment exists; if only a remedy could be found, what a world of happiness this might be! But it might be said, perhaps, that the more the ranks of the unemployed are diminished, the greater will be the effect of overcrowding in other ranks. To an extent this is true; but it is proper to remember that the less unemployment the greater the prosperity of the country, and in consequence the more employment it necessitates, whether it be in the building trades or amongst textile workers; a veritable beneficent circle. Even architects will benefit by increased national prosperity, but not to the same extent as artisans and textile workers; for whereas one building demands but one architect, it employs many artisans in each of several trades; and again, whereas a factory may give employment to one architect, it needs the active co-operation of a large number of textile workers.

Here in England one great fault is the working of the unemployment dole, a measure started as a means of temporary relief during a period of abnormal disturbance, but continued as a political asset by the three political parties. The dole should be regarded as something to be suppressed eventually, but in the meantime to be regulated in its application.

A means of increasing the prosperity of these isles should certainly be found in obtaining the repayment of the colossal sums lent by us during the war; it is inconceivably absurd that, whilst we pay our indebtedness to other countries (and that largely contracted for the benefit of our war Allies) we do not get paid what others owe to us. £600,000,000 and more from France would go far towards restoring our trade balances; our credit (if it ever was weakened) is already restored, but a good working motto is "Cum fide pecunia."

Furthermore, as a means towards prosperity I believe in some form of protection, even if it be confined to preferential tariffs. Free Trade is ideally a sound policy, but it does not work as a one-sided affair and in a selfish world.

However, leaving that thorny question, and avoiding the equally thorny questions of the dilution of labour and payment by results, let us regard another means of lessening the burden of overcrowded occupations. There are vast areas of the globe only waiting to be populated, supplying all the desiderata of climate and natural advantages. Cannot emigration be taken in hand more energetically and upon a broad basis of policy; cannot emigration be so directed as to supply the lands without people with those people who are without lands or the equivalent? Surely this is not an ideal which is unrealisable! Until we have exhausted the resources of civilisation we should not dread the contemplation of the increasing volume of the world's population.

Correspondence.

Terminological Taunts.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—I send two alternative versions of a humorous comment upon architectural terms from the point of view of an outsider.—Yours, etc.,

PHYLLIS K. M. LEATHERDALE.

"The Briar Patch,"

Castle Cary,
Somerset.

No. 1.

Why should *women's* technical working terms have proved so entertaining to the superior sex? How clever the man thought himself who penned the touching lines:

"You may baste, you may bias the seams as you will,
But the yoke of the tucker still hangs round the frill."

Yet possibly his own trade exhibited just as much cause for mirth to the uninitiated. Let us suppose him an architect for instance, what about his "wrot soffit boarding" and his "sprocket dragon pieces" and many such evil-sounding terms?

When fair-faced fanlights soffit wrot
And waney edges rile,
Just try to turn a dormer cheek
And pug the chamfered tile.

No. 2.

O man! who in thine hours of ease dost jibe
At Woman's work with mocking diatribe
Against the terms thou canst not understand,
Declaring, as thou watchest her deft hand
From desert cloth preparing fair attire,
That "though you bias to your heart's desire
And baste the seams, yet every tucker's yoke
Around the frill must hang,"—is this a joke?
Then hear the answer of thy patient spouse
Thou maker of the inconvenient house!
Thy terms shall yet make mirth O Architect!
For those whose vengeance thou didst not expect!
Of his "wrot soffit boarding" hear him rave,
And "sprocket dragon pieces." Heaven save
Us from such fearsome animals as these!
O shades of humour! listen, listen please!
O man! when fair-faced fanlights soffit wrot,
Just turn a dormer cheek, despairing not;
And when thy temper waney edges rile,
Serenely try to pug the chamfered tile.

Timber—A Menace.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—Every day—more and more—we find "timber" decaying, and those worm holes appearing.

The "timber is green" more or less according to the time of falling, and so it decays.

There is now a material that can be used for treating the ends and holes of the timber so that it will not decay as soon, and in many cases never decay at any time.

There is also a material for treating timber, etc., that is worm holed, and preventing further decay.

Both the above are very easily applied and are cheap, suitable for any timber—new or old.

I shall be pleased to supply any reader with full particulars by writing me—

EDWIN HAMMOND.

32 Lascelles Road,
Leytonstone, E.11.

SOUTHWOLD.—East Suffolk County Council recommend the design of Messrs. Mouchel & Partners for a ferro-concrete bridge of 80 ft. span, with three bays, on the Hennibique system to replace the existing bridge at Bus Creek, Southwold. The cost is estimated at £4,000.

MANCHESTER.—The Corporation have prepared improvement schemes at the various parks, to cost £63,818, to provide work for the unemployed.—The Tramways Committee propose to proceed with the construction of tramways at Kingsway and Moseley Road, at a cost of £70,490.

A Midland Building Exhibition.

The exhibition devoted to the building industries which opens on Monday next, September 7, and will continue until the 19th inst., should prove attractive to all interested in building operations. In the Bingley Hall will be gathered together a large number of our important firms, and the comprehensive exhibits which they are making deserve the support of architects, builders and contractors, who will by this means be enabled to view the goods practically at their very doors. The Exhibition is under the control of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, who have made arrangements and are issuing vouchers on the railway companies which will enable visitors within a distance of 60 miles of Birmingham to obtain return railway tickets at single fare. Birmingham, the great centre of Midland industries, should be able to provide a mass of visitors who will find a visit to be both entertaining and instructive. Some of the firms exhibiting have been enterprising enough to send us particulars of what they will be showing, and we have pleasure in giving them.

The official opening by Sir H. Kingsley Wood, M.P., Parliamentary-Secretary, Ministry of Health, the Lord Mayor of Birmingham presiding, will take place at 3 o'clock.

Messrs. Allen-Liversidge, Ltd., Victoria Station House, Westminster, S.W.1, are exhibiting among other things all the many accessories necessary to an effective welding and metal cutting equipment. The firm have made a special study of these articles and their products have gained for them a well-deserved reputation. Those visiting the exhibition who are interested in brazing, soldering, cable-jointing and paint burning will find a fine display of articles which are used in connection with work entailing the application of special equipment. Important advances have been made in the methods of lead welding or autogenous fusion of lead. The firm's exhibit includes all the latest appliances, and a well-informed staff are to hand ready to explain all technical difficulties that may arise in the minds of those visiting the stand.

Messrs. Ash & Lacy, Ltd., Meriden Street, Birmingham, are displaying roofing materials such as galvanised corrugated sheets, zinc sheets, felts, roofing accessories, including gutters and gutter brackets, downpipes, fittings, ventilators, cowls, skylights, ridging, etc. For ventilation purposes their exhibits include perforated metals of all descriptions.

Messrs. Bell's Poilite & Everite Co., Ltd., 59½ Southwark Street, S.E., are exhibiting their super corrugated sheeting known as Everite Bigsix, which has been proved to be one of the strongest asbestos cement roofings available. Poilite straight cover slates in various colours are also displayed on the stand. Another interesting product exhibited is the Poilite wall tiling, which is supplied in 2 foot squares, and is so easily fixed by nailing in the joint direct to battens or breeze. The joints are then pointed in, thus hiding the fixing, and giving an excellent effect of tiling, with a hygienic surface suitable for the back of baths, sinks, office dados, etc. Everite rainwater goods and gas flues and fittings are also shown, and the samples on the stand will convince visitors of the enormous advance which has been made in the quality of the manufacture of these goods, which owing to their non-corrosive qualities have such great advantages.

Messrs. British Fibrocement Works, Ltd., head office and works, Erith, Kent, and at London, Manchester and Birmingham, etc., are exhibiting a stand which has been specially designed for the exhibition and is constructed with the many various "Fibrent" asbestos-cement manufactures. The roof is built with "Fibrent" slates diagonal and straight patterns, "Fibre Five" corrugated sheeting curved in sections over the ventilator. The external treatment shows the use alternatively of "Fibrent" flat and corrugated sheets. The interior shows the use of flat sheeting and the several finishing methods that may be adopted are illustrated in a practical manner. The end wall demonstrates the successful application of "Fibrent" panel sheets and the method of fixing with rebatted joint. The flooring consists of "Fibrent" flat sheets ½ inch thick fixed directly to the joists.

Messrs. Cuirass Products, Ltd., Abbey House, Victoria Street, S.W.1, are displaying a number of their products. A special feature is being made of their liquid waterproofing. Damp walls are in every way a cause for annoyance and complaint. They spoil all decorative schemes and render rooms unsightly. In hotels and boarding houses visitors refuse to occupy rooms where

evidence of dampness are visible. Quite apart from the decorative standpoint no damp wall can be conducive to healthy conditions. Architects are constantly consulted by clients with a view to obtaining absolutely sound advice on this subject. Nearly every case must be inspected and all the circumstances considered in a careful manner. Messrs. Cuirass Products, Ltd., have produced a very effective remedy which is displayed on their stand at this exhibition. Architects will be well advised to study their display and take note of the simplicity with which the waterproofing is applied.

Messrs. Derrington & Sons, Birmingham, are making a special feature of a product known as "Calime," being a hydrated white lime available for immediate use (after mixing with sand and water) for plastering, thus doing away with the necessity of running lime for lime putty. This material (Calime) is supplied in 1 cwt. bags ready for use and is much more convenient and economical than the old method involving the lime bed and putty bin. Other exhibits include the well known "T.L.B." Rubber Bricks for arches, guaranteed to weather and stand well in any position or climate, Purimachos Fire Cement, Champion Chimney Pots for down-draught prevention, sandfaced fireplace briquettes and Garden Edging Tiles.

Messrs. The Eclipse Rail-Track Ladder Co., 40 Newfoundland Street, Bristol, have arranged a display of their patents in an effective way. The whole exhibit should be carefully examined. The "Eclipse" is an extension ladder with a rail-track, the same being a steel rail fixed at the back of the extending sections and slides on steel carriers which are fixed on the front of some of the rungs. A safety clutch is also part of the design. It is automatic in action, and consists of a single simple movement working without springs.

The Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., of York Mansion, Petty France, Westminster, S.W.1 (local representative: Mr. R. Spencelayh, Well Lane, Allison Street, Birmingham) will exhibit samples of the company's various products and photographs of a few representative works carried out on its systems. "Expamet" Expanded Steel Reinforcement, which has been used extensively for over 30 years for concrete foundations, floors, roofs, bridges, walls, etc. R.R.6 mesh "Expamet" for the reinforcing of concrete roads, foundations, pavings, etc. "Expamet" treble-layer reinforcement. This reinforcement is being extensively used for the reinforcing of concrete foundations and roads over bad ground. "Ribmet" for concrete and plaster work. Special attention is drawn to this new product, which is a combined reinforcement and centering. The use of this material in flooring and roofing of small spans eliminates the use of temporary close boarding. "BB" and "Expamet" lathings for plaster work. "Exmet" reinforcement for brickwork, concrete-block work, partition slabs, asphalt, etc. "Kerbmet." A combined reinforcement and protection for concrete kerbs. There will be shown also examples of partitions and ceilings formed with "BB" lathing and "Ribmet"; also encasing of steelwork. Full details of these products can be obtained from the representatives on the stand or direct from the company.

Messrs. John Fowler & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., are displaying on their stand two concrete mixers, standard 10/7 Model and a 6/4 Model fitted with a 10 cwt. friction winch. Both models exhibited are mounted on their special disc road wheels, and are complete with side power loaders, automatic water tanks and paraffin engines. The drum of the Fowler Concrete Mixer is constructed of two different metals, a combination which has proved very efficient. The centre portion, which is subjected to the hardest wear, is a semi-steel casting, and the sides are of pressed steel plate. Power loader models are fitted with their patent vibrating device which automatically oscillates the power loader when in charging position, and entirely frees the loose materials into the drum without recourse to hammering. Special attention is drawn to their 6/4 model, fitted with friction winch, which is a good machine for builders. A slightly larger engine is fitted than to the standard model, and the extra power is used to drive the winch, which is capable of lifting 10 cwt. at 50 ft. per minute. There is a complete range of Fowler Mixers from 4 cubic ft. capacity up to 1 and 2 cubic yards per batch on the stand, which are bound to attract considerable attention.

Glico Petroleum, Ltd., at their stand will be exhibiting a showcase containing a cylindrical bottle filled with their well-known "Decco Turps," together with models of an empty steel barrel, wood barrel and 5-gallon drum which are used in the distribution of "Decco Turps." There will also be shown various panels which have been prepared with paint mixed with "Decco Turps" and others with paint mixed with American turpentine;

in order to show that both as regards appearance, finish and "feel," there is absolutely nothing to distinguish which has been done with the one thinner and which with the other, although the materials include all types of paints and varnishes upon various materials. Obviously if the evaporative and drying qualities of genuine American turpentine are possessed by a competitive article that costs vastly less, and which will give identical results, it is only a matter of time and publicity for a big demand to be created, and we are therefore not surprised to learn that "Decco Turps" is steadily gaining a firmer foothold in the market.

Messrs. The Granwood Flooring Co., Ltd., Alfreton (Mr. Clinton Parsonage, agent), have arranged a very effective display on their stand, exhibiting Granwood floor blocks, fireplace surrounds, kerbs and wood overmantels. Granwood floor blocks are made of a patent composition by a special process and are machine pressed to a standard size of 6 inches by 2 inches by $\frac{5}{8}$ inch. Cove skirtings, etc., are also supplied. The standard colour resembles natural oak, and as the "tint" varies in the making, a particularly pleasant effect is produced in the finished floor.

Messrs. Horrell & Bowman, Ltd. will be exhibiting a variety of designed patent grates and a range of fireplaces with their complete fireside equipment. The requirements of every grade of house are catered for, from the artisan dwelling to the mansion. Sitting and bedroom sets and adaptable fires at very attractive prices, also the Workwell grate which is being extensively used for the non-parlour type housing schemes. Triplex and Workwell grates are to be seen actually at work, with cookery demonstrations constantly in progress and producing unlimited supplies of hot water. These productions have been specified for most of the housing schemes in the Midlands and in many other parts of the country. Furthermore, the Triplex "De Luxe" model (G pattern) is in demand for the larger houses, replacing the old-fashioned range. For the latter purpose, where desired, the De Luxe model is built with ovens on both sides of the fire and provides cooking efficiency. An important feature of this firm's exhibit is the collection of exclusively designed grates for the lounge hall, subsidy house, and the artisan dwelling.

Messrs. Thomas Howse, Ltd., Union Works, Smethwick, Staffs, have a wide range of paints and varnishes displayed on their stand. The exhibits also include finishes for ranges, grates, gas cookers, and fires. In addition all their specialities . . . "Graphax" paints for hard wear outside, "Graphax" steel priming paints, "Derustal" ironwork paints, "Ferret" genuine Oxide and Linseed oil paints, "Thermax" heat resisting paints, with many others complete an exhibit well worth visiting.

Messrs. "The Hurry" Water Heater Co., 39 Broad Street, Birmingham, are making a special show of the popular Magic "Hurry" Furnace for dual purpose of delivering automatically hot water to the bath, also for washing clothes in. These are now extensively in use in large housing estates in Birmingham and different parts of the country. The stand also shows in action the No. 10 "Hurry" Cylinder. This machine, after 10 minutes from cold, is ready to deliver hot water to the lavatory basin upstairs, also to the sink in scullery, and a further 10 minutes time, hot water to the bath, with repeats at 10 minutes interval.

Messrs. Jones & Attwood, Ltd., Titan Works, Stourbridge, are exhibiting cast-iron hot water pipes and connections—expansion socket and spigot, and flanged rain-water pipes and fittings are also displayed. In connection with domestic hot water boilers with open fire their "Domestikatum" boiler is exhibited; this pattern has been tested by many clients and is much appreciated. Its functions include the heating of the room and the supplying of hot water for all household purposes. Light cooking can also be done whilst the other requirements are being supplied. Messrs. Jones & Attwood, Ltd., are also showing many other patterns, including the "Batheater" for supplying domestic hot water; "Cultivatium" boiler for heating the greenhouse; "All-Night" boiler specially designed for heating the garage.

Messrs. The Liner Concrete Machinery Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne, exhibit the "Liner" Concrete Stone Moulding Machine "B" type, which makes any design and size of stone up to the over-all dimensions of the moulding box, required in connection with modern house-building and road-making. For instance, sills, heads, lintels, jambs, mantels, rock-faced and plain building blocks, hollow blocks, slabs, kerbs, quoins, mullions, channels, coping, fence and gate posts, cornice, etc., etc. Demonstrations will be given several times daily, when the different kinds of stone mentioned will be made.

Messrs. Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, are showing many of the products for which they have created a sound and lasting reputation; they include the following

selection from a very long list:—Dry white lead, made by "Stack process," ground white lead, miniature white lead stack illustrating the corroding of lead; red lead, including many varieties; litharge, orange lead in various shades; lead pipes, etc. etc.

Messrs. The Manu-Marble Co., Tuffley Crescent, Gloucester, are displaying some interesting articles made by Manu Marble, which is a reconstruction of the natural stone, and comprising practically the same chemical composition as real marble. The high prices of marble have always militated against its general adoption for decorative building purposes, but Manu-Marble removes this prohibition from the point of view of cost, the price being about one-half of the natural material.

The exhibit of Messrs. Mellowes & Co., Ltd., Corporation Street, Sheffield, and Victoria Street, S.W., consists of bathroom and sanitary fittings and examples of patent glazing. In our next week's report we hope to give some fuller details.

The Merchants Trading Co., Ltd., 34 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2, are exhibiting Metco Doors which are manufactured from old growth Columbian Pine seasoned and kiln dried.

Messrs. Parker, Winder & Achurch, Ltd., Birmingham, occupy two stands. They are thus able to present an extensive and effective display of their manufactures, which include a large variety of designs for fireplaces, combination grates, sanitary fittings, suitable for housing schemes. The exhibits also include fittings and plants in connection with central heating and domestic hot water supply installations, door and window fittings, "Empire" woven wire fencing and cleft chestnut paling, "Empire" concrete mixers for operation by hand or power, and the "Excelsior" patent steel bladed gravel screen as supplied to many municipal authorities throughout the country.

Messrs. Thos. Parsons & Sons, 315-317 Oxford Street, London, W.1, are exhibiting many of their paints and enamels, "Endel-line" and "Endelflat" are two qualities which command attention. "Unicote" is well known to many architects as an economical Flat wall paint.

Messrs. The Patent Tip-Up Bath Co., Bath House, Broad Street, Birmingham, are exhibiting various samples of their tip-up baths for (cottage property new and old) the latter particularly where a bath is desired, but the space too valuable to occupy the whole of an existing room for the purpose. The baths they are making to-day, on improved lines, will give many years extra service. Their best qualities are made in all sheet copper, well tinned on the inside, and do not require painting, except on the exterior.

At the Rawlplug Co.'s stand will be found quite a variety of labour-saving devices, some of which are quite new, having recently been placed upon the market. The use of Rawlplugs is shown throughout the day, and all who doubt the effective gripping power of the Rawlplug when used in conjunction with a screw, will have the opportunity of seeing these plugs fixed, and testing their power. The Rawlplug Bolt Anchor, designed for fixing very heavy machinery and weighty objects generally, is well worth special attention, as its functions commence where the utility of the Rawlplug ceases. Rawlplug bathroom fittings are on show in great variety, and in three distinct styles, Durium (the super aluminium), Nickel Plate and Enamulin. Recess screws—the screws that grip the screwdriver—are another exhibit which the Rawlplug Co. will exhibit.

The well-known roofings manufactured by The Ruberoid Co., Ltd., are being shown by Messrs. J. W. Rains & Co., Builders' Merchants, of 26 Summer Row, Birmingham. Standard Grey Ruberoid Roofing has for over 30 years been used on buildings of all kinds the world over with unfailing success and is to-day a staple article of the building trade. Messrs. Rains are also showing models of Ruberoid Roofing fixed, and Ruberoid Strip Slates. The latter are of very attractive appearance, made in two colours, red and green, the colour being formed by natural crushed slate being rolled into the surface of the Ruberoid during manufacture, giving a roof particularly suitable for use on bungalows, garages, sports and pleasure buildings of all kinds.

Messrs. Scaffolding (Great Britain), Ltd., 43 Lansdowne Road, Stockwell, S.W.8, are displaying their patent tubular scaffolding—for use on internal or external building construction, as used on H.M.O.W. contracts and by many of the largest contractors. Patent tubular steel construction—for erection of portable, convertible, adaptable, and every type of temporary or permanent buildings, including contractors' temporary works, canteens, hutments, etc. Patent Scaffixer scaffold ties—for use on pole scaffoldings. The speed, simplicity, strength and durability of these ties enable them to maintain their reputation under all circumstances. Demonstrations are given daily, showing the

method of fixing these patent scaffolding appliances. The firm have made a name for their patent scaffold, which has been adopted by the leading builders throughout the country.

Messrs. Skylux, Ltd., 22 Great Saint Andrew Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2, have erected a screen on their stand fitted with a number of sashes for practical demonstration of their Skylux System of window opening gear. The system is universal in its application to window sashes of every description, wood and metal framed. Single sashes, pairs, and series are operated with the same simplicity and efficiency. Demonstrations are given during the exhibition hours to illustrate the system in its many forms of application. Some very long spans of roof lights in the new Olympia Annexe, London, have been fitted with the system and are in successful operation.

Messrs. Turner Brothers Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale, England, occupy a small pavilion built with the firm's Asbestos-Cement building specialities. On the roof are shown the 4 foot and 3 foot 8 inch Trafford Tile for large roof areas and industrial buildings, the new 24 inch by 12 inch "Enduroil" Tile—an artistic tile in three colours giving a pantile effect and suitable for houses, the 15½ inch and 11½ inch diagonal Asbestos-Cement Slates in grey, blue, red and russet-brown, for application to any class of building, and the new "Serval" 24 inch by 12 inch and 15½ inch by 7½ inch Rough-Surface English Pattern Slates, specially prepared for domestic buildings and shown in several artistic colours—recommended where an economical substantial roof is required. The Walls of the pavilion illustrate wall and ceiling linings with "Aegis" Asbestos-Cement Sheets, and Roofing Tiles and Slates in sections to permit close inspection.

Messrs. United Anthracite Collieries, Ltd., 52-54 Leadenhall Street, E.C. 3, show samples of "cobbles" for central heating, "nuts" for stoves and open grates, "beans" for gas production, "peas" for steaming, etc., large and cobbles for horticultural purposes.

Messrs. Tanges, Ltd., Cornwall Works, Birmingham, have arranged an interesting exhibit, comprising the following items:—One heavy fuel oil engine suitable for 22 max. brake h.p., cold starting type, of their very latest design, suitable for working with residual oils, fuel oils, refined oils, tar oils, alcohol, etc. One 5½ brake h.p. vertical petrol engine mounted on skids. One each 3½ inches by 3 inches, 4½ inches by 4 inches and 5½ inches by 5 inches new design vertical ram pumps. It can be used for a variety of purposes and is especially suitable for estate, farm, builders and contractors' use. The exhibit also includes one each of their 2 inch and 3 inch Tangyeo centrifugal pumps, one "E" double lift hand hoist, several chain lifting blocks of the "Weston" and "Worm" types, and various patterns of screw and hydraulic lifting jacks.

An attractive Stall is that designed by Messrs. Welch & Hollis, Architects, of 7 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2, to demonstrate the advantages and attractiveness of Courtrai-Du Nord, Beauvais and Marseilles Roofing Tiles, all of which have an established place in the English market. The Courtrai-Du Nord Tile has the charming appearance of the old-world pantile, but its efficient interlocking system ensures an additional protection against wind and weather. The Beauvais Roofing Tiles have a charm all their own. Their colour is a beautiful shade of rich red—restful to the eyes. They are also supplied in mottled colours—a delightful assortment ranging from yellowish-brown to deep maroon. Marseilles Tiles, which, of course, are made from the terra-cotta clay of Marseilles. All three tiles by their individual merits have earned the appreciation of architects and housing authorities throughout the country. The stand is the joint property of the Sole Importers and Distributors, viz., The Courtrai-Du Nord Tile Co., Ltd., and Langley, London, both of 161 Borough High Street, London, S.E.1, and show in an admirable way the sharpness and beautiful colour which is making these tiles so popular.

Messrs. Charles Winn & Co., of St. Thomas' Works, Granville Street, Birmingham, will be exhibiting their well-known high-class sanitary fittings, including Winn's patent Easy-Clean Bib, lavatory and bath taps in Winn's special nickel-alloy, white metal and best quality plumbers' brasswork of all descriptions, radiator valves and towel rails. Special attention is called to their Winn's patent Easy-Clean radiator valves, and examples of high-class hot-water towel rails. The firm will also be showing fire-extinguishing appliances for public buildings, theatres, hotels, hospitals, works, private houses, etc. The "Simplex" Fire Extinguisher is made to Board of Trade and Fire Office Committee and fire brigade requirements. Fire case sets in all coupling system, hose cradle sets, canvas hose, couplings, branch pipes, stand pipes, hydrants and hydrant boxes.

The Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds, London office, 53 New Broad Street, E.C.2, have arranged their stand in such a way as to display their copper tubes for hot and cold water pipes in the most comprehensive manner. Many architects are realising the many advantages offered by the use of copper tubes and this stand should gain the manufacturers many fresh clients. The company's own estate of about 120 acres is devoted to the production of copper and brass tubes, the works having been founded over a quarter of a century ago.

General News.

ASCOT.—Berkshire County Council have obtained a grant of £3,300 from the Ascot Race Course Authority for road reconstruction.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Lancashire Education Committee are seeking sanction to borrow £6,420 for the erection of a secondary school at Ashton-under-Lyne.

BENFIELDSDALE.—The Board of Education have approved plans of the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Benfieldside.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Education Committee have acquired a site on the Staplehall Farm estate for the erection of an elementary school.—A site at Fast Pits Farm estate has been obtained for the erection of an elementary school.

BLACKPOOL.—The Corporation is recommended to make application to the Ministry of Health for sanction to borrowing of £12,000 for the subsidy on £150 houses erected by private builders.—Plans passed by the Council include the following:—16 houses, George Street, for the Coleridge Estate Syndicate, builders; 8 houses in Arlington Avenue and 10 houses in Jesmond Avenue, for Smith & Gardner, builders; Council school, Claremont Road, for the Education Committee, borough engineer, Mr. F. Wood; church, Wolverton Avenue, for the trustees of St. Stephen's Church, architects, Austin & Paley, of Lancaster; printing works, Central Drive, for the "Blackpool Times," architect, W. Wade, St. Annes-on-the-Sea; bank and café and 3 houses and shops, Red Bank Road and Queen's Drive, for Williams Deacons Bank, Ltd., architect, Lumb & Walton, Clifton Street, Blackpool; to be erected, 20 houses, Dunmail Avenue, for Atherton & Kerfoot, builders; 10 houses and garage, Bispham Road, for J. England & Son, builders; 12 houses, Roseberry Avenue, for Leach & Unsworth, builders.—Walton and Edmondson are developing land in St. Anne's Road, the architect for the scheme being Mr. F. H. Gorst, Birley Street, Blackpool.—Mr. David Wilson is proposing a new street off St. Anne's Street, being a continuation of Pedders Lane, the architect for the scheme being Mr. James Burns, M.S.A., Birley Street.—The borough surveyor submitted plans to the Corporation which he has received from Mr. Knight, of Manchester, showing a suggested construction of building at the corner of Bank Street and the promenade proposed to be used as service flats and shops.—The borough surveyor submitted plans of proposed clock tower and tramway shelter to be erected at the Gynn.—Mr. E. P. Mawson, the architect, submitted plans of various works to be done at the public park, including Italian gardens, layout of terrace and planting plants, etc.; the plans were approved.

BRACKNELL.—The managers of the Bracknell school have prepared a scheme for reconstruction but the Berkshire Education Committee are suggesting the erection of a new school on another site.

CROWTHORNE.—A site at Crowthorne has been purchased by the Berkshire Standing Joint Committee for the erection of a police house, estimated to cost £925.

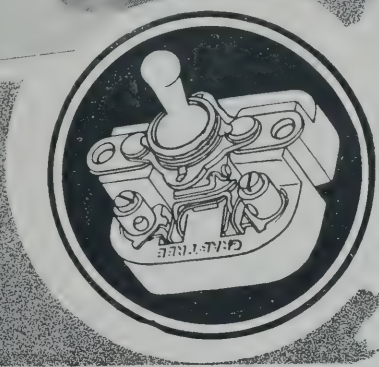
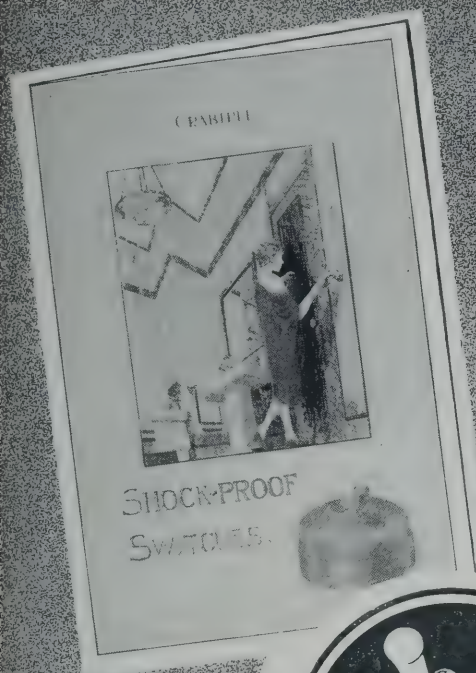
DIDCOT.—Berkshire Education Committee have prepared plans for the enlargement of the school at Didcot.

FARLEY HILL.—Berkshire Education Committee have obtained sanction for a loan of £2,636 for the erection of an elementary school at Swallowfield, Farley Hill.

FARRINGTON.—The managers of the Church of England school at Farrington propose to undertake alterations at the boys' school and are being urged by the Berkshire Education Committee to formulate proposals for improving the girls' school as well.

GRAVESEND.—The Corporation are being asked to consider a drainage scheme for the sand area of the borough as a relief work for the winter.—The widening of the main road by East Milton corner is being advocated.—Messrs. W. E. & H. E. Thomas, Ltd., are negotiating with the Corporation for land for the erection of subsidy houses.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of 12 blocks of tenements, four tenements to each block.—Messrs. Burvill & Steen are to erect 15 houses in Ferndale Road.

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HUNGERFORD.—Hungerford U.D.C. have called the attention of the Berkshire County Council to the canal bridge connecting the High Street and Bridge Street and asked that steps may be taken to have it removed and replaced by a level bridge or draw bridge. As an alternative it is suggested that the crown of the bridge should be lowered, the bridge widened and the parapet walls replaced with iron railings. The County Council are considering the matter.

LAMBETH.—The surveyor to St. Thomas's Hospital is to construct a subway under Lambeth Palace Road for the conveyance of patients from the hospital to the new extension on the opposite side of the road.—Milburn House, Knight's Hill, is to be adapted for use as a maternity home at an estimated cost of £6,100.—The London County Council have prepared a scheme for widening Acre Lane, Brixton, at an estimated cost of £53,500 for property and £54,000 for works.—The borough engineer is to prepare plans for a convenience in the vicinity of the Crystal Palace.—An electricity sub-station is to be erected in Industry Terrace, Brixton.

LAMBOURN.—Berkshire Education Committee are in communication with the managers of the Lambourn Church of England School regarding the necessity for a scheme of reconstruction.

LEEDS.—The Corporation have passed the following plans: 16 houses, Parkside View, Meanwood, for Mr. Frederick Holes; 20 houses, Upland Road, Harehills, for Messrs. C. H. and F. Lax; 4 houses, Green Hill Place, Bramley, for Messrs. Arthur Lambert & Son, Ltd.; 8 houses, Foundry Lane, for Messrs. Morris & Outhwaite; 4 houses, Talbot Grove, for Mr. W. C. Rodgers; 7 houses, Roman Terrace, for Mr. E. Fish; 4 houses, Estcourt Terrace, Headingley, for Lt.-Col. W. A. Scott.

LEEDS.—Plans passed by Corporation: 10 houses, Talbot Road, for Messrs. T. Morley & Sons; 18 houses, East End Park Estate, for East End Park Estate Co.; 4 houses, Wensley View, for Messrs. F. Reddyhoff & Son.

LITTLEBOROUGH.—Lancashire Education Committee are purchasing Rockby House at a cost of £1,600 for purposes of a school clinic for Littleborough.

LITTLE COXWELL.—Berkshire Education Committee are asking the managers of the Little Coxwell Church of England School to provide additional accommodation and improvements.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—The Corporation are seeking sanction for a loan of £6,000 for the erection of workshops for the blind.—The borough architect has reported regarding the proposal to erect houses for persons now living in an old school and submitted particulars of houses now being built by the Caerphilly U.D.C. at an approximate cost of £300, exclusive of roads and sewers. He has submitted alternative plans for 12 one-storey houses at an estimated cost of £4,400 for erection at Rocky Road, Gellifaelog. The Ministry of Health are to be asked if such a scheme will be approved. In this connection the Housing Committee suggest obtaining alternative quotations for erection in concrete and bricks.

NEW BOTLEY.—Berkshire Education Committee are considering the provision of a new elementary school at New Botley.

NEW SEAHAM.—Preliminary plans for a new elementary school at New Seaham are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

PENZANCE.—Messrs. Pool and Son are to rebuild the Dock Hotel and plans have been passed by the Corporation.

REMENHAM.—Berkshire Standing Joint Committee are acquiring a site at Remenham for the erection of a police house.

SALFORD.—Plans passed by the Corporation include the following: Wilson's Brewery Co., "Oxford Inn," Bexley Square, Salford—architects, Johnson & Sons, 27 Oldham Road, Manchester; R. Haworth & Co., Ltd., seven dwelling houses in Gladys Street, and nine houses in Treble Street, Salford—architect, H. V. Dyson, 48 Bridge Street, Manchester; J. E. Humphreys & Co., Ltd., erection of 32 semi-detached houses at Welbeck Road, Ashbourne Grove, Tully Street, Bispham Grove and Norman Road, Broughton—architect, A. V. Roberts, 113 Cheetham Street West; W. Thorpe & Sons, works, Ordsall Lane, Salford—contractors, W. Thorpe & Sons, Chester Road, Cornbrook; Jackson's, shop and dwelling house, 318 Broad Street, Pendleton; the Committee, baths and wash-houses, Hodge Lane, Salford—architect, C. Swain, 12 Exchange Street; Bradford Dyer's Association, Ltd., erection of one storey building at dyeworks, Myrtle Grove, Broughton—own architects.

SANDHURST.—Berkshire Standing Joint Committee have purchased land in Florence Road, Sandhurst, for the erection of police buildings.

SHREWSBURY.—Messrs. Shayler and Drake have a scheme for the development of the Woodfield estate.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—The Corporation are conferring with the L.N.E.R. regarding the widening of Dean Road bridge.—The Corporation are discussing with the Rural Council and the County Council a scheme for the extension of King George Road, the estimated cost being £120,000.—Plans for the erection of the South Shields War Memorial at the corner of Westoe Road and Horsley Hill Road have been approved.—The Education Committee have submitted plans of new school buildings to the Board of Education for approval.—The Housing Committee are to erect 356 houses on the Cleadon Park estate.—The borough engineer has prepared plans for the completion of the Brinkburn recreation ground at a cost of over £6,000.—The Corporation have decided to complete the lay-out of Bents Park at a cost of about £5,600.—The Corporation are urging the L.N.E.R. to provide increased accommodation at the railway station.—The Education Committee are still considering the erection of a school of art, for which the tender (£3,445) of Messrs. Humphreys Co., Ltd., has been recommended by the governors.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £65,000 for road and sewer works on the Sunderland Road housing estate.—The Durham County Garden Villages, Ltd., propose a housing scheme in Wenlock Road.

SWALWELL.—A site at Swalwell is being selected for the erection of an elementary school by the Durham County Education Committee.

TROWBRIDGE.—The Urban District Council are negotiating for land in Palebarn Road for the extension of the park.—Plans passed: Alterations, 61, Fore Street, for Messrs. Freeman, Hardy & Willis.

WALLINGFORD.—Berkshire Education Committee have obtained sanction for a loan of £1,200 for the provision of an additional classroom at the Wallingford Grammar School.

WALSALL.—The Corporation have decided to erect a house in the Arboretum Garden for the parks superintendent, at a cost of about £850.—The Education Committee have decided to establish an orthopaedic clinic at Bradford Street.—Two chimney stacks at the generating station are to be repaired at a cost of about £240.—Premises in St. Paul's Terrace are to be purchased for adaptation as a tuberculosis dispensary.—The fire station is to be reconstructed at a cost of about £700.

WIMBLEDON.—The buildings of the Wimbledon county school for girls are to be completed by the Surrey Education Committee at a cost of £22,000.

WOKING.—Surrey Education Committee have decided to proceed with the scheme for the erection of an elementary school at Westfield, Woking.

WINCHESTER.—Hampshire County Council propose to acquire the premises of the Hampshire Friendly Society adjoining the county offices of Castle Hill at a cost not exceeding £5,000.

WINNERSH.—Berkshire Education Committee have arranged to provide a new council school for Winnersh by the purchase and improvement of the buildings of the Church of England school, Bear Wood.

Trade Notes.

The Rowlands Castle Brick and Tile Works have sent us an excellent series of their well-known sand-faced tiles, which are admirable in their texture and are well suited for the best domestic work. The range of colours comprise every shade from a clear red to a deep purplish red similar to that of old tiling which has been long exposed to weather conditions. It is sometimes difficult to obtain immediate supplies of good tiles, but the Rowland Castle Brick and Tile Works are in a position to meet all demands made upon them. Their address is: Rowlands Castle, Hampshire.

Boyle's Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilators have been applied to the Wandsworth, Wimbledon and Epsom District Gas Co.'s Power House, Epsom. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Cabot's Quilt, the material for sound deadening, the sale for which has been steadily increasing, is supplied by Messrs. Huntley & Sparks, 46 King's Road, Sloane Square, S.W.3. It has just been introduced into the ceiling of the Board Room at Messrs. Liberty's, Ltd., on their new building in Regent Street, for acoustic purposes. For sound-deadening and thermal insulation the material is, of course, now a standard article, but the comparatively new demand for it for acoustical work bids fair to rival the former uses.

Mr. G. H. Foggitt, A.R.I.B.A., has joined the well-known firm of Messrs. Chorley & Gribbon, F. & A.R.I.B.A., of 3 Park Place, Leeds, and the firm will in future carry on practice as architects and surveyors under the name of Chorley, Gribbon & Foggitt.

CONTENTS.

American Architecture	PAGE 175	A Defence of Architectural Eclecticism	PAGE 186
The Terrifying Town	179	The Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied	189
Correspondence	181	Trades Exhibition	194
The Admirable Architecture of Roman France	182	General News	

American Architecture.



EQUITABLE TRUST COMPANY'S NEW PREMISES, BROADWAY, NEW YORK. T. T. DE POSTELS, Architect.

We give this week some illustrations which have appeared in the "Architectural Record" of New York of the Shelton Hotel, a very successful example of the class of mammoth structures which we have learnt to associate with America. We sometimes wonder whether even in America the necessity for enormous blocks of buildings is likely to be a permanent phase and whether they will be found to be permanent income-producing propositions. Intense industrial development has a tendency to outstrip demand, coupled with the fact that the more backward countries are rapidly learning to supply their own wants and no longer offer the same field for the consumption of experts as they did. The world may yet find its greatest requirement to be the production of

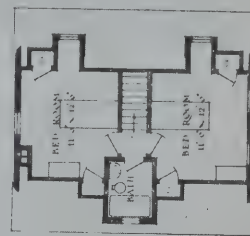
foodstuffs, which is made yearly more difficult by the greater inclination of the population of most countries to turn their attention to industrial occupations. The New England States have been abandoned as agricultural areas for the Middle West, and in its turn the Middle West is rapidly becoming less profitable to the farmer than the more virgin fields of Western Canada. Mr. Mackay Edgar has sounded a warning note on the subject of the coming exhaustion of the mineral wealth of the United States. The great buildings of America are the landmarks of a country which is enjoying an unprecedented prosperity due to the richness of its natural resources and its ability to supply less developed communities with the goods they require. But to a less marked extent than that



DETACHED HOUSE
Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



DETACHED HOUSE
Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

HOUSES AT PORT JEFFERSON, LONG ISLAND, FOR THE UNITED STATES SHIPPING BOARD.
EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION. ALFRED C. BOSSOM, ARCHITECT, NEW YORK.



THE "EVENING POST" OFFICES, NEW YORK.

here the jaws of the vice are slowly tending to close. On the one hand the riches in the form of natural resources are becoming less, and on the other the demand for manufactured goods is bound to be more and more restricted as time goes on by the development of other nations. We have seen the results of this process here since the middle decades of last century, when England was still the greatest manufacturing centre of the world.

We can almost foresee a time when in every country the greatest of all requirements will be the production of foodstuffs within its own area, coupled with manufacturing activity which will be confined to the production of goods for internal consumption. If this be so, the enormous growth of cities and the increased size of buildings may prove to be a temporary feature in the world's history, and instead of a continual increase of scale we may see a progressive diminution, not indeed down to a mediæval standard, but to a lesser one than enthusiasts of progress are inclined to think likely.

In any case, our buildings even in London can never reach American standards, for the United States is more nearly equivalent in its extent and resources to the whole of Europe than to any one European country. It is true that this country is the predominant partner in a great confederation of States together forming an empire, but it is equally true that the energies of the individual parts chiefly express themselves locally and that the British Empire for obvious reasons can never have the commercial unity of the United States.

Some nations in the past have, as in the case of Holland, chiefly paid their way as "middlemen" and centres of exchange, but in the future this is bound to be less and less the case.

The close attention and admiration with which American architecture is regarded here has, we believe, a tendency to make architects *prone* to believe that American models can well be imitated by us, which

we believe to be a delusion and sometimes a snare. But even in America development may within the lifetime of many, cease to be carried on at a geometrical ratio and fall back to a gradual arithmetical one, and it is more than possible when this happens that the newer buildings of America will be smaller rather than larger than their prototypes, and that what we now see going on may be the last laps of the ascent rather than the prelude for greater ones. France and Belgium, where every acre is cultivated, rather than other countries with their deserted country sides, may be the real prototypes of the conditions to come in the future.

The building of colossal hotels and apartment houses is, no doubt, chiefly due to the desire to save time and trouble in life, and must be a more marked feature in America and in many other countries than here on account of the smaller value put on personal privacy. Here we have yet to determine the ultimate effects produced by the difficulties of service and the desire to save time and trouble in changing the instincts of one of the most conservative races in the world. We do not definitely know where we are now, nor need it surprise us if in a few more decades the present tendency to live in flats and hotels were to be replaced by a preference for the house, while it is conceivable that the difficulties of obtaining domestic service may in the end largely disappear. What has been in the past may in a word prove to be more permanent than what we have in the present.

It has been said with some truth that nothing is more permanent than change, but it does not follow that the change must be from new to newer. Frank Stockton pictured a world which had become tired of quick locomotion and had deliberately reverted to slower methods, and, fantastic as the suggestion seems at first sight, it may not be altogether beyond possibility. We, like the ancient Athenians, delight in new things, but when their novelty has worn off we sometimes ask ourselves *cui bono*.

Our Illustrations.

CAPTURE OF CARTHAGENA BY SCIPIO: From a painting by JULES ROMAIN.

SCIPIO REWARDING HIS SOLDIERS AND RECOGNISING PRISONERS OF WAR MADE AT CARTHAGENA.
From a painting by JULES ROMAIN.

CLEARWAY FILLING STATION, KINGSDOWN, KENT. F. SUTTON SMITH, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

A New Theory of Greek Proportions.

The late Mr. Jay Hambridge's theory of dynamic proportions in Greek art have been widely discussed and commented on. Briefly they were dependent on the principle of proportionate areas and not proportionate dimensions. We understand that critics who examined the theory were not altogether convinced by Mr. Hambridge's theories. Now Mr. Gardner, a New York architect, who has been studying the subject for two years, claims to have discovered a simpler method of proportion which he considers will explain the design of the Parthenon, and even the arrangement of the Akropolis and Athenian "town planning." He has found that certain squares, one of which is stated to be the sixteenth part of a metope, was the unit which determined all other dimensions of the Parthenon. His theory will be explained in a book which is shortly to be published, and which will be read with much interest. For our part, though we should be greatly interested to see such a theory as is suggested substantiated we should still feel that only a little assistance had been afforded the designer, and that the greater part of his efforts could not be regulated or ordered by any system of proportioning, however ingenious and perfect it might be.

London Traffic Suggestions.

It is proposed to try a simplification of traffic routes in order to relieve congestion in the Strand at the corner of Wellington Street. It is proposed to turn up east-going traffic along the Strand by directing it along Aldwych, while west-going traffic coming down Kingsway will be deflected round the eastern side of Aldwych and then along the Strand, which up to Wellington Street will have one way traffic alone. Other suggestions under consideration are the construction of a new relief street parallel with the Strand from Aldwych through Covent Garden, assuming the market to be done away with. This relief road has been long wanted, but the position of the market has hitherto presented an insuperable obstacle.

Alternatively a viaduct is proposed from Aldwych to Waterloo bridge, passing over the Strand or a tunnel beneath it.

A tunnel passing from the west side of Berkeley Square down Stratton Street across Piccadilly into Green Park, west of Devonshire House, is another proposal under consideration, but to do this it will be necessary to wait until the leases of the houses across the top of Stratton Street fall in.

We feel that at the present time it would be wise to attempt to deal with traffic by directing it, seeing the enormous cost of constructing new traffic ways under present conditions.

Antiquarianism in Evidence.

A competition now being held for administrative offices for the Norfolk County Council in Norwich, is arousing opposition among antiquarians, because it involves disturbance of the mound on which the castle stands, and antiquarians argue that this must be prevented at all costs, as they say injury will be done to the mound and the view of the Keep will be obscured. As an alternative site, the utilisation of part of the cattle market site is suggested.

It appears to us that while it is always as well to consider alternative suggestions, we are in England often too much swayed by antiquarian considerations. Our forefathers were not, and had they been some of the finest buildings

of the past would never have been built. We believe a balance should be struck between the merits of that which we sacrifice and that which we obtain and that neither antiquity nor tradition should be allowed to be absolutely governing factors in these cases.

London Development.

The great sale of 40 acres of the Howard de Walden estate to the Audley Trust Limited includes Great Portland Street, Great Titchfield Street, Margaret Street, Mortimer Street, Eastcastle Street, and Great Castle Street. As far as development is concerned, the change will probably make little difference, as Colonel E. Blount will continue to act for the purchasers. A more important change which may lead to early development is that of the former site of Meux's Brewery at the corner of Oxford Street and Tottenham Court Road, which covers two acres, which has now been purchased by the Beecham Trust. This site has long remained derelict, probably because the owners wished to dispose of it as a whole, and if the purchasers are willing to dispose of portions of it independently, it is likely to be partially developed in the near future. It is in a good central position, but we imagine that without a very good development scheme the back part of the site facing Great Russell Street may be difficult to dispose of. The full and proper utilisation of the site can only be effected by an arrangement with the owners of the narrow strip of property which cuts off a large portion of the site from New Oxford Street.

The Foundling Hospital Site.

Various plans for the utilisation of the Foundling Hospital site are under consideration, one the building of a series of service flats, another the setting up of a new market to replace Covent Garden, while a third suggestion is that it should form a site for the buildings of the London University. We do not think the last is likely to find much support as there seems less reason to move to the Foundling site than to utilise the Bloomsbury one which has the advantage of closeness to the British Museum and to University College. But we know that there is little enthusiasm for the Bloomsbury site which it is quite possible may be sidetracked before actual building operations are commenced. A market may or may not be needed in the locality which certainly has advantages over Covent Garden, but whether a large number of service flats could be built which would show a good financial return is, we believe, at the present time somewhat doubtful. The new owners of the site will probably have to proceed slowly and carefully and it seems doubtful whether we shall see great changes in the district for a considerable time.

A Book which is Wanted.

We are constantly seeing new books on architectural subjects and books on architectural analysis, but we still wait for one which requires a writer of insight and great courage. The subject we suggest is the great buildings of past ages and a plain unvarnished criticism of their merits. Many a cathedral would be roundly condemned as a bad example of architectural design did the critic say what he thought instead of sidetracking the subject in an oasis of description. But it would be necessary for a good architect to inhabit the Palace of Truth to write such a book and to be fully insured against the consequences of his frankness, which is the reason why we must still wait for what is wanted.

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CAPTURE OF CARTHAGE BY SCIPIO

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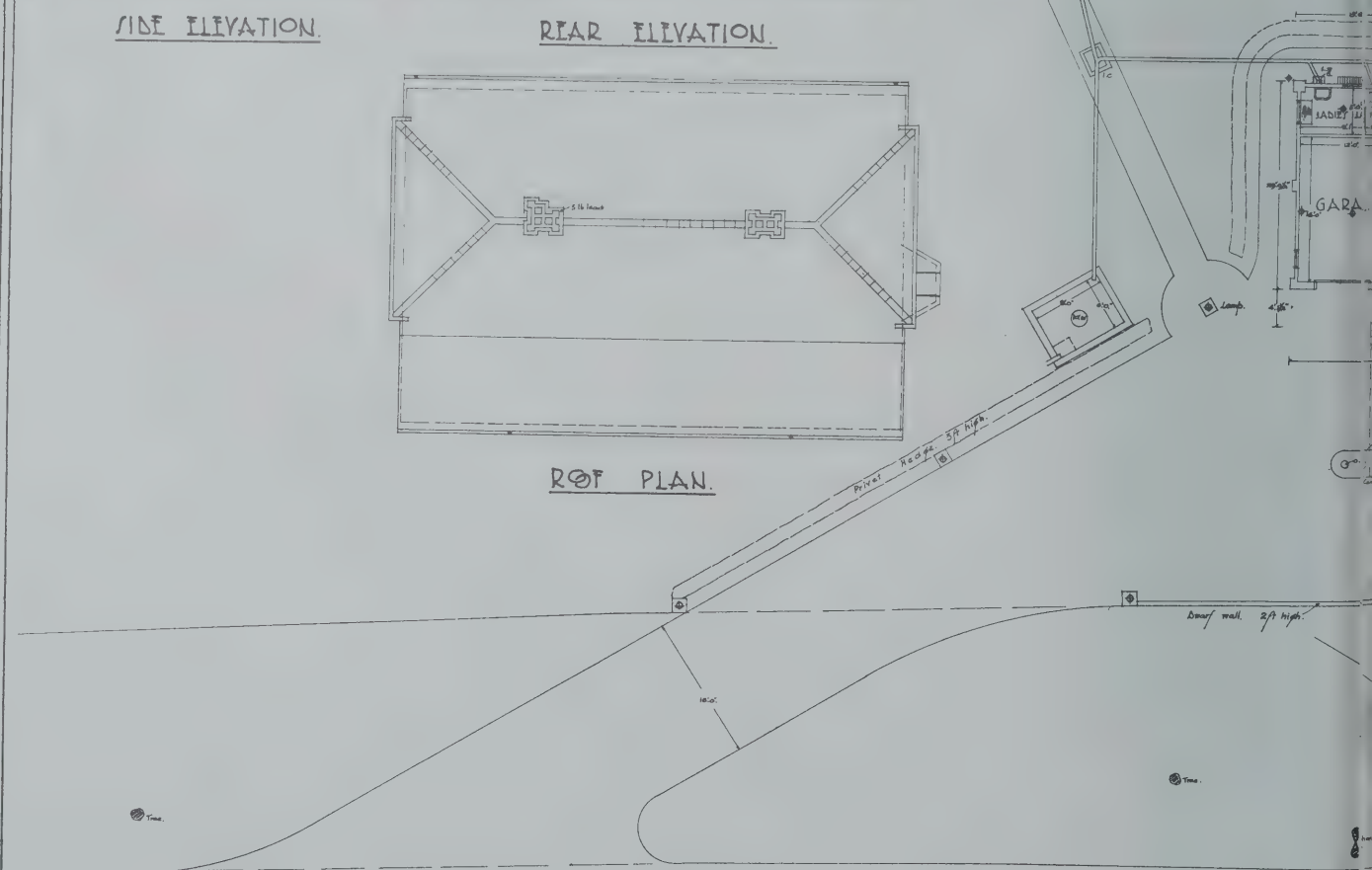
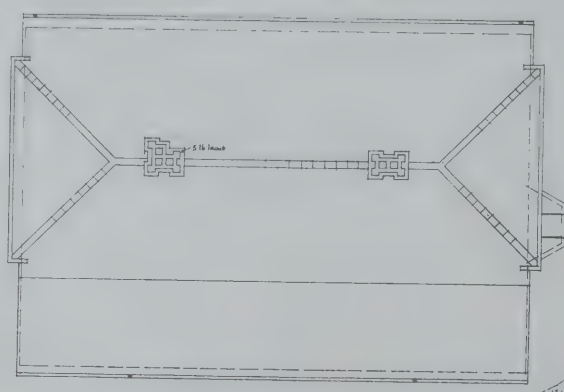
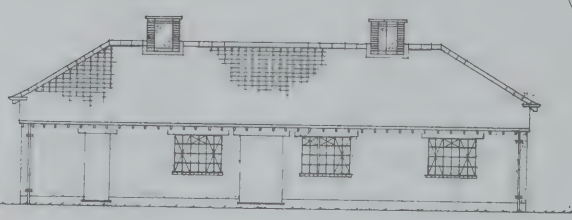
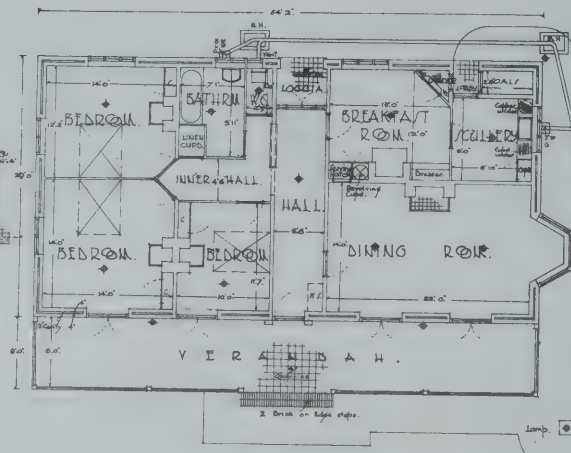
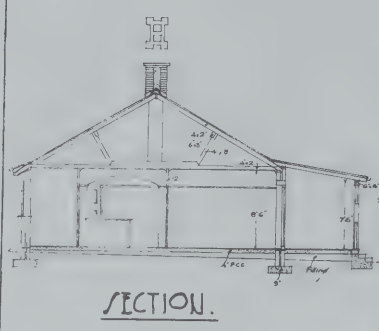


SCIPIO REWARDING HIS SOLDIERS AND RECOGNIZING PRISONERS OF WAR MADE AT CARTHAGENA

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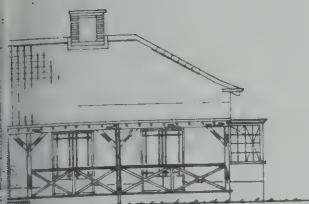
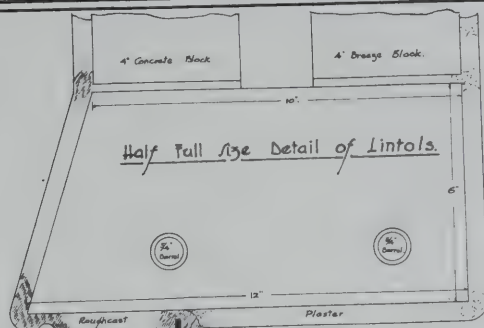
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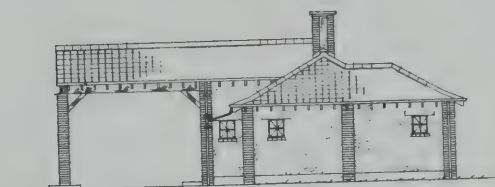
EMBER 11th, 1925.

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for
CAPT. J. ILLIS DYE,
Proprietor.



ELEVATION.



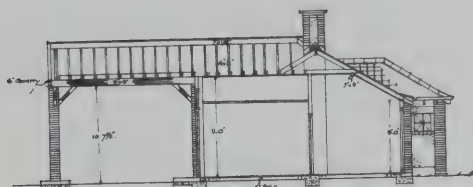
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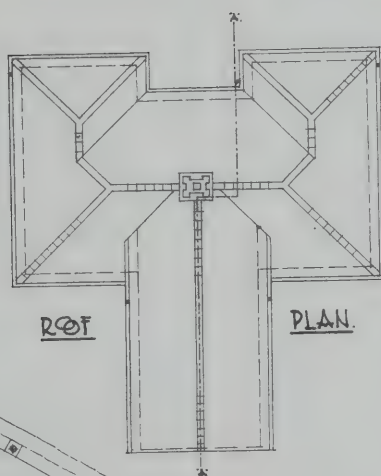
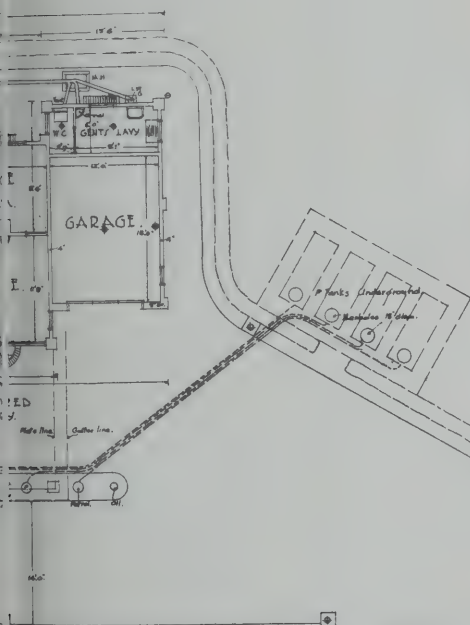
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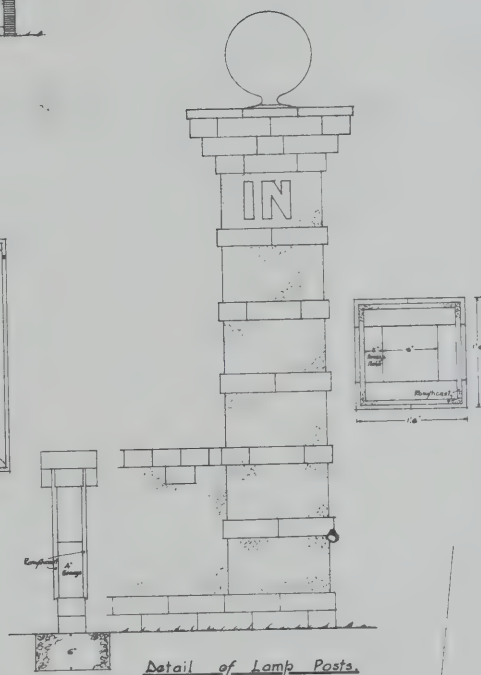


SECTION.



ROOF

PLAN.



Detail of Lamp Posts.
Scale: 1" to a foot.

to an Inch.

◆ denotes Electric Light Points.

J. Weston Smith.
P.A.S.I.
Architect and Surveyor,
8 Ross Parade, Wallington,
Surrey.
Oct. 1924.
Dr. No.
54/1.

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The Terrifying Town.

By Alfred Granger, A.I.A.

From "The American Architect."

Five years elapsed between Mr. Granger's previous visit to New York and the one he so interestingly describes in the following article. Every delegate to the recent convention and every out-of-town visitor will find Mr. Granger's description of the Terrifying Town extremely interesting.

For an architect to return to New York after five years' absence is a sensation equalled only by that of Rip Van Winkle after his twenty years' sleep in the Catskills. Indeed I doubt if the changed aspect of Falling Waters was as great as that which has taken place on Manhattan Island in the past five years.

In Chicago the papers continually speak of the intersection of State and Madison Streets as the most crowded and confusing corner in the world, but it is a quiet spot in comparison with the turmoil and confusion which greet one on emerging from the Grand Central Station between five and six o'clock in the evening. People everywhere, over one's head, almost under one's feet, pushing from every side, rushing in every direction—that is the condition of the sidewalks; and the roadways are even worse, trolley cars clanging as they swing round corners, taxihorns tooting to pedestrians who dart across the streets at corners, in the middle of blocks—everywhere. In no other city do pedestrians seem to care so little for their lives as they dart in and out among the motors. Having known New York all my life, and how the great city never stands still, I had expected to find changes since 1919. The various architectural publications keep us, in the west, abreast of the greater developments in the city planning and building, but all the architectural publications in America cannot keep track of the vast projects contemplated and under way in New York.

The effect of the first impression of the great city is almost stupefying; it is so Titanic in scale that physical man seems an atom, lost amid the stupendous creations of his own imagination. After twenty-four hours of hectic adjustment I determined to begin at the Battery and work my way uptown. Nothing could change the beauty of the old Battery pointing out to sea like a great ship. Among the newer buildings of lower New York by far the most distinctive and beautiful is Mr. Morris's Cunard Building, with its superb vaulted hall, surely one of the noblest rooms in the world, distinguished both in its architecture and its mural decorations.

I remember when the Blair Building was the triumph of Renaissance architecture in lower Manhattan. It is still just as beautiful as it ever was, but now, along with the Custom House and the Chamber of Commerce, it is lost in the sense that one has to look for it because the scale of everything is changed. The wonder of the exterior of the Cunard Building is that while it is as refined and studied in detail as the Blair Building or the earlier palaces of McKim, Mead and White, in its immensity it belongs to the gigantic city of to-day. Where will it be to-morrow? God only knows. Wandering northward in the mellow sunshine of November one is compelled to stop in front of old Trinity, which still dominates Wall Street and the marts of trade which completely surround and tower above it. Here is still the New York of history and tradition. To step inside is to rest one's soul and to strengthen one's faith, as no matter at what hour of the day one may enter, he is sure to find others who turn from the howling, pushing city without to find that comfort and spiritual refreshment which cannot be found in the more gorgeous temples of the god of commerce. The great changes in lower New York are not along Broadway but on the slits of side streets which give vistas of towers rising above the darkness of the streets below. The effect of these streets reminds one of the mediæval towns of Bavaria and northern Italy, with this difference: they are dark and mysterious but intensely human while the scale of these side streets is Brobdingnagian. Never before have man's

creations towered to such heights, the upper stories sparkle in the sunshine, but the darkness below, where man gropes his way, is complete.

Washington Square and Gramercy Park used to be my Meccas in the early days, but even in these quiet spots the invaders have gained foothold. The north side of Washington Square remains unchanged, but has a lonely, tired look, and the Washington Arch, which once was such a thing of beauty as the end of the southern vista of an avenue of dignified churches and homes, now looks a little childish and pitiful. What shall I say of the city between Washington Square and the Park? It is all business and not such beautiful business at that. With the exception of the Saks Building none of the newer shops, gorgeous as they are, can compare with the old Gorham Building, which the Gorham Company have abandoned, or with the Tiffany Store. The stepping-back effect of the zoning law is less noticeable on Fifth Avenue than on any other street, but around the Grand Central Terminal is seen to its greatest advantage, and it is here that one gets the greatest thrill in New York and realises that the city is beautiful with a beauty all its own. Before leaving Fifth Avenue mention must be made of the traffic towers in the centre of the street, for in the design of these towers Mr. Freedlander has struck a very high note. They are strictly of our day and of that newer beauty of function which our day demands. Nowhere else in the world is there anything just like them. Generally, in New York, the seeker after beauty has to walk with his head tilted back and his eyes aloft for the new architecture flowers at the top, but these exquisitely graceful traffic towers meet the eye at its normal level and charm by their lightness, their refinement and their grace. Just before coming to the Library on one's way uptown, the eye is caught by a sudden shimmer of gold off to the left. What is it? one exclaims as he eagerly turns down Fortieth Street to see what it can be. Here rises up the Radiator Building, at once the most startling and most daring thing in all New York. The best place to view this *tour de force* of Mr. Hood's imagination is to stand at the base of the Bryant Statue in Bryant Park. The design of the building is logical, sincere and truly beautiful. Had it been executed in stone like the Tribune Tower, which he is now building in Chicago in association with Mr. Howells, it would have been an architectural triumph, but the black blackness of the brick and the shining yellow of the gold seem to the conservative Chicago mind to savour of the theatrical, which is not to be desired in permanent architecture; perhaps in the New York of the future it will find its place. Below the Park the residential quality of Fifth Avenue, that quality which in former years made it emphatically THE avenue of America, is gone. It is true that the Vanderbilt houses still face St. Patrick's Cathedral, and that the John Innes Kane house, Mr. McKim's masterpiece, is still the most distinguished house in New York, but these houses and the Union Club are relics of a former day. The University Club, because of its height, holds its own, but as one looks at its surroundings the sad thought comes that soon it, too, will move elsewhere into some more congenial environment; perhaps we shall see even beautiful St. Thomas's Church compelled to pull up stakes and, like little Joe in *Bleak House*, yield to the relentless whip of commerce and move sadly on. Of one thing we may be sure, and in the frantic rush of our vaunted progress it is a consoling thought, one landmark of the older Fifth Avenue will remain to break the dull monotony of comemeial skyscrapers, the twin spires of St. Patrick's Cathedral will continue to point upwards to the sky to declare the immutability of the Roman Church, calm and serene against all storm and change. Walking east from the Plazo one crosses Madison Avenue with scarcely a glance, for this once dignified residence street is worse than

Fifth Avenue for crowds and noise and rush, but Park Avenue is a delight to the eye and a vision of the future. Here is a street in scale with the greatness of the city. On either side great blocks of buildings seem to reach the sky, but the street is so broad, their height but adds to its dignity and these great structures seem to be more fitting for residence than the few individual houses which still remain. In his delightful book entitled "The New New York" John Van Dyke, about fifteen years ago, prophesied the day when the private residence must give way to the great apartment building in order to make room for the growth of the city. That day has already come, but because human characteristics are hard to change, and love of home is one of the strongest of these characteristics, some new and charming residence districts have sprung up on the eastern side of Park Avenue, of which the best known are "Turtle Bay," the block between Lexington and Third Avenues and Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth Streets, and the one called Sutton Place at the east end of Fifty-seventh Street on the river. These quiet spots with their tiny gardens and their living rooms, all away from the street, are charming and quaint in spite of their newness, and remind one of parts of Chelsea in London. Another change which is very new is on Fifty-seventh Street, which has become a street of art galleries and shops *de luxe* rivalling in brilliancy and charm the Rue de la Paix. From Fifty-ninth Street up the changes in the city are not so marked because old landmarks have not stood in the way of growth, but all empty places are fast disappearing and still the relentless city goes on. The most congenial spot, as I said above, is around the Grand Central Station on Madison Park and Lexington Avenues and the lower Forties. Here one is both thrilled and terrified by the immensity of everything and here, in the heart of the crowd, one finds most food for thought. Within a stone's throw of the great terminal are two new buildings which, to my mind, are more expressive of the New York of tomorrow, which, in the language of the street, more completely "get" one than any other structures on Manhattan, and they are the Bowery Savings Bank, opposite the Station on Forty-second Street and the Shelton Hotel at the corner of Lexington Avenue and Forty-eighth Street. Both of these buildings are intensely modern, both original in design, both beautiful and—both are Romanesque rather than Renaissance in feeling. There was a time, not many years ago, when the genius of McKim, Mead and White was the strongest and finest influence in American architecture, that New York gave promise of being Italian Renaissance in its architecture. Mr. McKim believed that the Italian style was the one best adapted to the needs and aspirations of the American people; he stood for dignity and order and that simplicity which we call classic, and by his firmness and tact and, above all, his exquisite taste he impressed his ideals so strongly upon the American people that throughout the country his followers and disciples sprang up. The World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago showed the American people for the first time the supreme beauty of order. A few years later his tact, more than anything else, saved our Capitol City, Washington, from the hands of the speculators and the politicians and made firm its foundations for becoming the most beautiful city in the world. Before McKim, Mead and White took the lead in all matters pertaining to the architectural beauty of our cities, America had produced one architectural genius, Henry Hobson Richardson, the architect of Trinity Church, Boston, the Allegheny County Court House at Pittsburgh, Sever Hall at Harvard and many minor buildings, all of which show the touch of real genius. Richardson was at once ardent, poetic, a dreamer and a realist. Southern by birth, New Englander by education, he combined in his own remarkable personality the outstanding characteristics of both sections of the country and he died in the prime of life at the very height of his career. He loved the rugged and the picturesque, and as a means of expressing his ideals he took for his inspiration the Romanesque buildings of Southern France and Spain, a transitional and undeveloped style, which he felt to be expressive of the conditions in this country. That his vision was true was

shown by the number of his followers in every section of the country, but the tragedy of his life lay in his early death before he had had time to impress the principles of his art upon the American people. Shortly after his death the project of celebrating the discovery of America by a great exposition came before the country, and Chicago was selected as the site of this exposition. At that time Richardson's truest disciple, John Root, was at the head of the architectural profession in Chicago. He, more than any other of Richardson's followers, had grasped the principles of the great architect's vision and their adaptability to America's needs. John Root made the first tentative studies for the World's Fair, and had he lived the whole exposition would have been in the Romanesque style, rich in colour, exuberant in detail and poetic in expression, but he, too, died at the height of his career before his great scheme was anything but a dream on paper. Had either of these romantic geniuses lived out his allotted three score years and ten, what would be the result of their influence upon the appearance of our American cities to-day? These were the thoughts which came to me as I mingled in the crowds and took in all the romantic beauty of the Bowery Savings Bank and the still more beautiful Shelton Hotel. Elsewhere in New York is the Romanesque feeling noticeable in many sections of the city, particularly in the new Equitable Building opposite the Pennsylvania Station and the Cornell Club on Madison Avenue; even McKim, Mead and White's splendid Racquet Club shows its influence, although to a far less extent. Is the genius of America classic or romantic? is a question that gives one food for thought. Our two great cities are typical of our entire country in this industrial age when the mass of the population flocks to the towns. The early tradition of America is distinctly classic as is evidenced in the Colonial or Georgian architecture of the days both before and after the Revolutionary War. Washington began as a classic city with a plan based on the beauty of order, and such we hope it will always be. After the Civil War the industrial development of the country really began, all bars to immigration were taken down, and people of every race and nation flocked to our shores to meet the insatiable demand of industry for human labour. In those days and until the last ten or fifteen years, New York was our orderly City, the Paris of America, while Chicago was the vast heterogeneous hive of industry without order and without plan. Then came the World's Fair and Chicago awoke. To-day it looks as if in the days to come Chicago would be the city where order and dignity of plan prevail, where the old Anglo-Saxon traditions of America are most in evidence, where the conservative type of culture flourishes, while New York is something totally new in the history of the cities. Only superlatives can fully describe it—vast, cyclopean, in certain aspects terrifying, and yet with a splendid, Titanic beauty all its own. Again and again as I walked the streets, studying their physical as well as their architectural aspect, the thought came to me, if Richardson had only lived to see it how he would have loved the intensity, the virility, the vigour of it all. Could he have lived to see his loved Romanesque style developed to meet the needs and express the dreams of this latest age of transition in a form as beautiful and inspiring as the Shelton Hotel he could have died happy. Perhaps he does see it and rejoices, who knows? We are apt to boast about the beauty of the Rockies or the Grand Canyon because of their grandness of scale; they are works of Nature created by unseen forces, and we rightly regard them with awe, but surely Nature has produced nothing on a grander scale and yet of more mysterious beauty than the first view of Manhattan from the deck of a great ship steaming up the bay. From this point of view it is a fairy city of minarets and towers touching the sky. Monet could have painted it and brought out all the mystery and poetry of its outline. Only when one wanders through the canyons at the base of these towering masses, an atom jostled and pushed by other atoms, with eyes piercing the darkness and seeing nothing of the glories above, one recalls the story of the building of the tower of Babel and wonders what calamity is in store for the Babylonians of to-day if they continue

to strive to outdo the works of God. At present, at least, there is no sign of fear or lack of self-confidence in the faces of the people one meets on the streets; in no other large American city does one see so many happy faces in the crowds. They are not American faces, as we are accustomed to consider the Anglo-Saxon type, but bear the features of every people of Europe with this great difference. In Europe one meets these same types as one travels to and fro, and in Europe they are neither discontented or content, but never eager with the happiness of opportunity which one sees in New York. Of course, there is poverty and wretchedness and suffering appalling to a degree, but even in the poorer streets one finds hopefulness in the faces of the people, and it is this hopefulness of aspect, this eagerness of effort and confidence in self which make New York so unique among the cities of the world. The New Yorker cares for nothing outside of New York because he believes absolutely that on Manhattan Island can be found everything that makes life exciting—I had almost said interesting, but that is not the right word, for the New Yorker thrives on excitement, and in New York he finds it in all possible forms. It is this craving for the new, the bizarre, the exciting that makes him tear down the monuments of the city's past and erect in their places such buildings as the Radiator Building, for example. It was a relief to turn away from it and the destructive thoughts which it arouses in one's brain and look again at that exquisite creation, the Morgan Library. Here is art as we were taught in our youth—calm, serene, beautiful. As long as members of the Morgan family lived in the quiet brownstone houses near it one felt that this gem of McKim's creation was safe, but now that they have moved away and it belongs to the city, will the city keep it where it is or will its collections be moved to new surroundings and the land converted to other uses to meet the resistless demands of industry and trade? And yet, which is right, the spirit of destruction of everything that obstructs the wheels of what the men of to-day, like the men in every other period of human evolution, have called progress, or the spirit that resents all change and continually harks back to the golden days of long ago? We are told that Augustus found Rome brick and left it marble. Doubtless the old fellows who resented the Imperial idea and dwelt fondly on the beauty and simplicity of Republican Rome thought the new city had become an unattractive and impossible place to live in. Napoleon III ordered Baron Haussmann to destroy miles of mediæval French architecture to make way for the broad avenues and places which have made the plan of Paris the model of the world and the upbuilding of these same streets and avenues created the need for the modern French architecture which we send our young men abroad to study and absorb. One cannot study our greatest city and remain pessimistic, there is too much buoyancy and hopefulness and self-confidence in the air. Those buildings of our very infantile past which are really worthy, such as Trinity Church, for example, will remain, and by their very presence will eventually have such an influence upon the new architecture, like the Bible and Shakespeare upon our current speech, that each year fewer buildings will be built which are blatantly temporary and the city will acquire a dignity and unity of scale that will make for real and permanent beauty. To-day the city is terrifying, like Kipling's American whom, in the beginning of his poem, he describes as—

"Calm eyed he scoffs at sword and crown,
Or panic blinded stabs and slays;
Blatant he bids the world bow down,
Or cringing begs a crust of praise;

"Or sombre-drunk, at mine and mart,
He dubs his weary brethren Kings,
His hands are black with blood—his heart
Leaps, as a babe's, at little things."

At the end of the poem, however, allowing what he calls the American spirit to speak, he says:

"Lo, imperturbable he rules;
Unkempt, disreputable, vast—
And, in the teeth of all the schools,
I—I shall save him at the last."

It is this same American Spirit in which we Americans have faith, even though we lose faith in many of the ideas and ideals taught us by our fathers, which will save New York from utter destruction and will make it in time the wonder city of the world.

Correspondence.

"Signed" Architecture.

IS ANONYMITY DESIRABLE FOR THE DESIGNERS OF BUILDINGS?

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

So much has been said in criticism of British domestic architecture, particularly since the present housing spurt set in, that architects and local authorities may profitably inquire what steps can be taken to encourage originality and attractiveness in the design and construction of our homes. Emulation of the best in our domestic architecture is the obvious way to improve the general standard; but the difficulty lies in the fact that the person who admires an artistic house or well-planned offices frequently has greatest difficulty in tracing the architect, and may be unable to do so. The days of anonymity in architecture, as in literature, drama and art, surely are numbered in an age when no man is accepted on his face value, but is judged on his works. To advertise may be against the traditions of architecture as a profession, and publicity, in the sense of broadcasting to the public, may equally be unpalatable; but the general principle remains that the creator should be prepared to stand by his own work and should reap the fruits of it.

If it is unfeasible to embellish the building with the full signature of the architect, there appears to be no reason why the clever bungalow, the beautiful country house and well-designed town house should not bear some symbol which would be the means of identifying the architect and lead to the creation of more and more artistic homes. The new system of Monomarks appears to me to provide for architects the desired happy medium between advertising and anonymity. A Monomark, carved on one brick or a stone let into the corner of the building would enable the architect to be communicated with merely by writing on an envelope the Monomark appearing on the brick or stone, adding the word "London" and posting the letter. This would be delivered at Monomark House, where it would be re-directed to the architect.

This form of "signed" architecture would be neither embarrassing nor undignified. It would exercise a healthy influence on building generally, inasmuch as the best designs and the soundest construction would eagerly be sought out for emulation. The work of the earnest and enterprising young architect who evolves bright and artistic ideas would no longer go unrecognised. There would be less inducement to copy his ideas on general lines, when his Monomark, unostentatiously attached to the building, would enable his services to be obtained and his ideas applied to particular requirements. The Monomark system would discourage the erection of houses of the monotonous, uninteresting and inconvenient type so frequently inflicted on the workers, to the disrepute of our domestic architecture. It would discourage them, not because the identity of the architect would be revealed to the public, but because the attachment of a definite identification mark must inevitably tend to encourage high standards. Monomarks would put architects in touch with builders and clients. They would enable the prospective home-builder to obtain *exactly* the materials he desired. They would, in short, establish an invaluable medium of communication and, in the long run, must influence beneficially the standard and tone of the homes of Britain by widening the field of selection, adaptation and improvement.

"Z."

SHOTTERMILL.—Surrey Education Committee now propose to proceed with the erection of an elementary school at Shottermill. This will be a single department mixed school with an infants' division, providing accommodation for 280 in seven rooms, with additional rooms for domestic subjects and handicraft instruction, and a central hall.

The Admirable Architecture of Roman France.

By Francis Miltoun.



PALAIS DE JUSTICE, AIX EN PROVENCE.



THE PONT FLAVIAN, NEAR AIX.

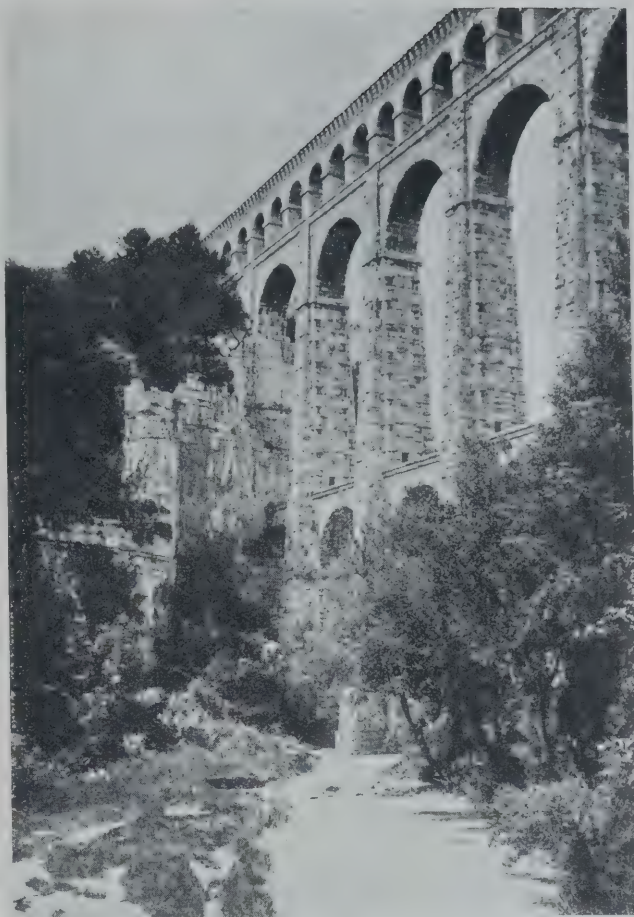
It can hardly be said that the architecture of the Romans in southern France has left any great impress upon the modern civic and domestic building of the region any more than that of the Moors in Spain is reproducing itself there. Frankly it has not.

Exception may be made of certain interpolated details which have come down from the ancient past, but this is more the result of regionalism and climaticism, so to coin a word—comparatively flat roofs, small window openings and massive portals of both town and country houses.

For the rest it is modified Italian, if you like, but it is not Roman. Perhaps Mediterranean is the better word. The builder of concrete houses—though the Roman built in brick and cut stone, his concrete *per se* was concrete par excellence, as evinced by samples frequently met with—has not even thought it worth while to reproduce these accepted Roman forms, though manifestly in ground plan and silhouette they are most suitable for the material in which he works.

Marseilles, with its vestiges of Greek, Roman and mediæval architecture—all visible in a big excavation an acre or more in extent which has been blasted out of the underpinning of a mass of unsanitary old houses back of the Bourse—has not otherwise the slightest complexion of Roman about it in anything but fragments. And only twenty miles away as the aeroplane flies is that magnificent Pont Flavian which strides the little river Touloubre as it empties into the Etang de Berre and still nearer, at Aix-en-Provence, are the Baths of Sextius which date from B.C. 124.

There may be cited also at Aix, aside from the admirable collection of Gallo-Roman monuments in the local museum, the Palais de Justice which, though dating only from 1787, suggests, both in its interior and exterior, some Roman palace adjacent to a public forum far more than most contemporaries of its time.



MONTRICHER'S AQUEDUCT AT ROQUEFAVOUR.



THE ROMAN AQUEDUCT AT FREJUS.

The Roman aqueduct and ruined arena of Fréjus—the latter still sufficiently well preserved to serve various artistic manifestations each year by the players of the Comedie Francaise, the crumbled stones of Pomponiana near Hyères and the still more petty fragments of the famous Arch of Maurius at the "Putrid Camp" or Pourrieres, where the Roman general met and defeated the Ambro-Teutons, all give evidence that the Massilia of the Romans was a centre of something more splendid in Roman times than exists even in memory to-day. There is still less of the Phocæan and Greek occupation.

Marseilles' nineteenth century Arch of Triumph, while erected by a sentiment quite in keeping with Roman tradition, is far more Napoleonic in silhouette than it is as an inspiration born of the Cæsars.

The Pont Flavian is thoroughly of the Roman epoch of Gaul with nothing added and but little taken away—a coupled triumphal arch linked by a single arched bridge roadway 70 ft. in length across the Touloubre, still a much used Chemin de Grande Communication, skirting the north shore of the Etang de Berre. It dates from the Rome of Augustus' time and was erected at the expense of Donnius Flavius by his executors, Donnius Vena and Attius Rufus.

Midway on this highroad, between the shores of the Etang de Berre and Aix, is what may well be referred to as an echo of the precepts of the Roman architect-engineer, builder of aqueducts, in the stupendous Aqueduct of Roquefavour. Built as late as 1842, by the Marseilles engineer, Montricher, to bring the waters of the Durance to the city of the Phocæans, it rears its imposing length of 375 metres eighty odd metres above the roadway passing beneath, carrying twelve great arches and a superimposed arcade in turn surmounted by fifty-three superior arched openings. The *ouvrage d'art* is flung hardily across the river Arc in a manner which is scarcely overshadowed by the famous Roman aqueduct of the Pont du Gard, near Nîmes. The cubic total of the masonry is 66,500 metres, of which 55,000 metres are in cut stone, certain blocks weighing as much as fifteen metric tons.

Arles, of all the cities of Roman France, is more consistently reminiscent of the era of the generals, consuls and emperors than any other of the battery of Rhône-side cities and towns which formed the cradle of Roman domination in Gaul. Its modernity is shocking in contrast. Tradition has done nothing towards inspiring a repetition of the slightest detail in modern Arles to suggest the splendour of what it once possessed under the Romans, or what of that period which actually exists to-day in considerably more than remnants.

The Arena at Arles, whose grand axis approaches four hundred and seventy feet (greater than that of Nîmes), with an original seating capacity of sixty thousand, was old before the third century of the Christian era, probably having been built by Antonius, though its arcades and its



ARENA, ARLES.

sixty "bays," or openings of its galleries, were restored, perhaps completed, by the consul, Junius Priscus, in the fourth century.

Appreciation of Arles arena heightens the suggestion that the modern built stadium, wherever found, at Wembley or the really more splendid Yale "Bowl" in America, owes its inception to such Roman master works as this



ANTIQUE THEATRE, ARLES.

rather than of the Greek playing fields or open air gymnasia. The Spaniards in their bull rings have adopted the Roman arena idea bodily and with little modification, seldom interpolating any architectural or decorative elements worthy to be catalogued as such.

Of the Place du Forum at Arles there is left only an open square on which stands a statue in trousers of the Provencal poet, Mistral, and a fragment of an ancient portico built into the outer wall of an otherwise unappealing, rather fustian, hotel which audaciously flares the modernity of its "hot and cold laid on" and its garage equipment in the face of the lover of ancient landmarks.

The Alyscamps, or Elysian Fields, a broad tree-lined avenue bordered by a multitude of Roman tombs, was throughout mediæval times ever used as a sort of Valhalla for the nobles of the time, also as a ready made quarry for such stone as one with the power might choose to carry away. Dante and Ariosto celebrated its fame in verse. The chapel of Saint-Accurse still possesses a fine Roman arcade of the Christian period.

The antique theatre, which neighbours the arena, is more fragmentary than the latter, but its svelty Corinthian columns are all that is best in the proportions of that order. Its famous Venus of Arles was uprooted and presented to Louis XIV and to-day has found its resting place in the Louvre at Paris.

The massive towered gateway through which one enters the town formed a part of the Constantinian palace when that emperor made of Arles the place of his favoured residence, the glory of its time in Gaul. Its rude simplicity and rugged proportions might at least serve as a model for a stage setting if actually it would not bear reproduction otherwise in the walks of modern life.

At Saint Remy de Provence, the Glanum of the Romans, there are, perhaps, the two best preserved and most interesting Roman monuments of their class in all France—the Arc de Triumph, of imposing proportions and a superb caissoned vaulting, supporting near by a pilastered mausoleum, or funeral monument of some sort, surmounted by a cupola. By some they are considered to represent the Latin decadence, but were undoubtedly erected by Sextius, Lucius and Martial "of the race of Julius," in memory of their parents. Merimée, when he was at the head of the historical monuments commission, had one theory as to their real purport, and Leon Palustre quite another. There they stand in isolated majesty and those who view them may well marvel, as well at their just proportions and quasi-elegance as to their emplacement in the surrounding framing of the rocky Alpilles where the Roman legions once camped and incidentally engineered one of their master works in the shape of a superb highway of which outcroppings are here and there still to be observed, doubtless a spur of the Aurelian way as it crossed southern Gaul.

Saint Gilles, the ancient Heraclea, to-day an unlovely wine and oil town across the Rhone, on the banks of the Beaucaire canal, has a *maison romane*, serving as the presbytery of the parish church, which is all that an example of Roman domestic architecture should be, its rather grim façade with its window openings suggesting nothing that the mediæval and renaissance builders of the pays d'Arles, with their indifference to appropriate forms, incorporated in any of their works which came after.

The Church of Saint Gilles is a suggested adaptation of a Roman building in many ways and is on all counts a successful ecclesiastical architectural expression of its late era. Its still uncompleted front has a certain simple majesty, and its interior embellishments, sparse though they be, are indicative of an ambition. The curious stairway which this church possesses is known as the "Vis de Saint Gilles" and is a unique and utile architectural



AUGUSTAN TROPHY.



PALACE OF THE POPES AT AVIGNON.

accessory which causes it to be writ down as a novelty in the books of reference of sixteenth century religious architecture.

Nîmes, though lying well without the valley of the Rhône, has the most spectacular Roman sentiment hovering over it of all the group of cities and towns of Roman France. Its guide-book sights loud pedal its Roman ancestry and if the famous Maison Carrée is more Greek in outline than following accepted Roman forms it is no less Roman for that.

The most and the best that can be done here is to catalogue briefly these treasures. For the rest, they should have a chapter to themselves since they are farther afield than the strict geographic limits of the Rhône Valley and Old Provence permit of inclusion in detail.

Voici la liste! The Arena (138 A.D.), its long axis being 133 metres. The Augustan Gateway. The Temple of Diana. The Maison Carrée. The Tour Magne. The "Gardens of the Fountains," with their vestiges of Roman baths.

Returning again to the Rhône and Avignon of the seven Popes (one of whom was an Englishman) presents quite another phase, where mediæval building methods, more those of the Romans of antiquity are in evidence. Largely they were of Roman influence at that, if it has become the fashion to speak of them as of the Latin decadence. The Papal Palace does stand alone in its class. It may not be Roman, it certainly is not French. It is frankly of the Roman manner of massive construction, half churchly, half militant. A fortified residence of the Popes, as it really was, the most stupendous thing of its class and time. Rome of the *moyen-âge*, the feudalism of the campagna and beyond gave the inspiration for its building and for its "surrounding and covering" as the French expression for walling in a roofing has it. Its huge bulk, covering 15,165 square metres, was due to Pope Jean XXII in 1316.

The Roman Avenio, which became Avignon, was the natural refuge of the Popes when they fled Rome in the thirteenth century. It is natural to find then that the Palace of the Popes at Avignon, more than any other similar edifice in France, perpetuates the later evolution of Roman building as it was in the Rome of the Christians.

The famous Bridge of Saint Benezet at Avignon dates from the twelfth century, and with its "chapel on a bridge," not unlike that near Ely, is likewise after the manner of the monkish Italian bridge-builders who spread their art of masonry abroad.

Of their time, of their class, and of their grandeur there is nothing elsewhere on earth more imposing and better cared for than the antique theatre and the ornate arch of triumph at Orange, the Aransio of the Gauls and later a Roman colony under Augustus.

The former is still utilisable and is the annual locale of magnificent open-air representations by artistes of the Comédie Française. The footsteps of tradition have been followed since the days when the Emperor Adrian first caused to be presented spectacles here of a splendour hitherto unknown outside of Rome itself.

The imposing façade has a length of 103 metres and a height of 37 metres. The plateau, or stage, forms one side of the hemicycle of 55 metres in width. The work has been restored, but well restored, and retains all its principal characteristics much as they once were.

The Arch of Triumph, which sits astride the famous Route d'Italie, which runs from the Parvis of Notre Dame at Paris to the Italian frontier at Vintimille, is comparatively restrained in its proportions, but it looks imposing because of its isolation and its elaborate decorations, and three arcades have been well preserved from vandalism and the intemperies of weather and the stress of time. The work is supposed to commemorate the victory of Tiberius in 21 A.D.

Of course, those who do the channel ports to Monte Carlo in the round of the clock *en auto* care little for this, perhaps are not cognisant of what the magnificent arch stands for as they almost brush it with the fenders of their cars, though they must be well aware of its existence even if a howling mistral is enveloping it in a cloud of dust, as it often does.

This plea for the better knowing, the better seeing, of this wonderful group of Roman remains of the Rhône Valley and Old Provence is based upon a respect for that humanism which is far removed from the hackneyed definition of culture, or even from the passion of the archæologist *per se*.

Incidentally it is a curious sidelight that is shed by recalling the fact that John Stuart Mill is buried in the cemetery at Avignon. The tired architect, builder or artist at all events will probably think them worth while as he passes this way.

If the architecture of southern France has been so little inspired in later days by these noble monuments their general lines are at all events so familiar to those who know and care what the Romans accomplished in Gaul that the marvel is that their details and their history are so infrequently repeated.



STREET OF ROMAN ARCHES IN SOUTHERN FRANCE.

A Defence of Architectural Eclecticism.

I thank Mr. Frank Rutter for his sagacious and generous comments* on my criticisms of his suggestion† contained in his essay on the "Revival of Design" that appeared in the "Edinburgh Review" of last April. I am still unable, however, to agree with Mr. Rutter's chief conclusions, which, I cannot help thinking, are formed without due cognizance of the scope of the emotions that can felicitously actuate architectural conception.

It will be well at the outset to make clear what I consider to be generally meant by eclecticism in art. My notion of eclecticism is precisely as Mr. Rutter excellently defines as "the mingling together of distinctive characteristics taken from various styles or schools." For a work to be eclectic those characteristics must be easily recognisable. But a style may, at its inception, be eclectic, yet so develop that all traces of the distinctive characteristics of other styles are lost in the course of development; then it can no longer be truly termed eclectic. I understand Mr. Rutter to mean that; yet, if it be accepted, there can be little justification for his reflection that continuity in the evolution of art "would almost justify us in regarding practically all art, from the point of view of form, as being more or less eclectic." If that were so the term would lose its significance. Athenian art of the historical period (from about 600 B.C.) was in its beginnings, doubtless, eclectic, mixing Egyptian and Assyrian characteristics, and showing strongly the influence of the art of the Aegean islands, as, for instance, in the domain of sculpture, the archaic statues unearthed on the Acropolis remain to testify. But in the development to the classical works of the fifth century all traces of foreign influence were lost. The process of logical development from archaic to classic art contributed more in determining the character of the style than the influences that helped to form its beginnings. So a style can evolve and leave no trace of its eclectic beginnings. That is when art is developing from archaicism to classic achievement. But a direct development from classic perfection can be altogether free of eclecticism. Take the development of English Gothic from the Decorated to the Perpendicular period. It was direct and purely national, untouched by foreign influence. The marked divergence of English from French Gothic actually began early in the thirteenth century, and from that time differences are more and more apparent. The English churches, in general design, manifested greater repose, a less daring and restless aspiration than the French; and later, this tendency for repose became stronger, and the restless and fanciful rhythms of the Decorated period gave place to the severer, more restful effect of horizontals blending with verticals of the Perpendicular style of which Wykeham's work in the nave of Winchester is the earliest and one of the finest examples. The Perpendicular style expressed a natural reaction against restlessness and exuberance, a development exclusive to this country, the most purely English style we ever had.

With Liverpool Cathedral, and perhaps more so with Sir Gilbert Scott's later work, such as the church at Northfleet, there is a difference. The monolithic character of Greek architecture and the energetic character of Gothic are distinctly discernible, and we may therefore call such works eclectic. Consider the drawings of the north or south elevations of the transepts and tower of Liverpool. With broad severe spaces enclosed by long verticals and horizontals, imparting a sense of massiveness and repose, are placed Gothic arched windows and Gothic featured turrets. Mr. Rutter says that "if it be more than skilful eclecticism, then it will be found that in the aspect of the whole one idea will be dominant, and that the cathedral will be eloquent in the main either of the energy of an irresistible force, or else of the grandeur of an irremovable mass."

It may well be asked if the expression of one definite idea is a necessary requirement of an architectural conception, and whether it is essential to the highest achievement that a cathedral shall "be elegant in the main either of the energy of an irresistible force, or else of the grandeur of an irremovable mass." It is pertinent, therefore, to further support the æsthetic legitimacy of these "two distinct forms gradually coming together" and mingling in harmony.

When English Gothic developed away from the French in the direction of greater repose, was something of its æsthetic value thereby sacrificed? It is questionable. Mr. Rutter would doubtless say yes. On the other hand—as I have already mentioned—Sir Gilbert Scott has observed that "in most Gothic cathedrals the emphasis of the vertical is unduly stressed and thereby a great deal of calm and serenity is sacrificed and a feeling of restlessness which tends to destroy repose and peace." But in achieving what he has Sir Gilbert Scott has gone further than directly developing on English Gothic and has frankly imparted something of the character of the Greek temple to his design. How Greek, for instance, are the north and south external elevations of the transepts. In being thus Greek are the "distinctive characteristics" of Christianity forsaken? for Mr. Rutter says that when I speak of the "Renaissance as 'the intermingling of Christianity with Greek culture' it can hardly be denied that in that intermingling the 'distinctive characteristics' of Christianity were forsaken." It may seem a strange thing to say, yet I think Mr. Rutter will agree, that in one respect Greek architecture expressed an important quality of Christianity better than Gothic. The latter, with its spirit of restless aspiration and fervent worship mingling with the exuberant and often grotesque fancies of the mediæval mind, hardly expressed the Christian quality chastity so well as Greek architecture. That is a quality that Sir Gilbert Scott has not forgotten.

It is, however, the insistence on one idea as governing the forms of a structure that seems to be Mr. Rutter's main conclusion. Thus following on my contrast of the distinctive emotions underlying Greek and Gothic art, Mr. Rutter fails "altogether to perceive how any satisfaction could possibly result from an architecture which should give on the one hand a little expression to the thought that 'death is the end,' and on the other a little hint that human personality survives the grave." But the expression of an intermingling of two distinct conceptions of life need not be a little expression of one and a little of the other. From that intermingling a fresh emotion has arisen. The feeling of the Greek that death is the end, and the feeling of the Christian of the Middle Ages that life is but a preparation for the next, with a presumptuous certainty of a next life, have but little place in the sanest modern culture. The definiteness of both can no longer satisfy, and the attitude is largely, even amongst devout Christians, that both may be, though there is some reason, perhaps, to hope for the latter; yet all is uncertainty. The perplexities of life, the little we really know, the strange course of human events give rise to continual questionings, continual and eager inquiry, for all is mystery. And is it unreasonable that an architecture shall express such emotion? It can hardly be called an idea, but an idea is not necessary to art, but an emotion is. This emotion is perhaps the cause of much of the greatest art the world has known, and it is but natural that it was most strongly expressed in the Renaissance. It is seen best in the two most expressive figures of that movement; Leonardo de Vinci and Michelangelo. Were not the scientific inquiries of the former stirred by a passion to search amongst the mysteries of the universe? Was it not with an effort to suggest the mysterious that he experimented with chiaroscuro, deepening the shadows among the rocks and showing glimpses of a strangeness in the distances in the Virgin and Angel group and the Mona Lisa? Is it only fanciful to suppose that Michelangelo

* THE ARCHITECT, August 28, 1925.

† Quoted fully in my article that appeared in THE ARCHITECT, August 14, 1925.

relished the task of designing the dome of St. Peter's mainly because a large dome gives a sense of immensity, mystery and awe? And those figures called Night and Day, Twilight and Dawn, on the Medici tombs, what definite idea underlies them? Pater says the titles are "far too definite for them." In interpreting from them much of the peculiar significance of Michelangelo, Pater says that "he is the disciple not so much of Dante as of the Platonists. Dante's belief in immortality is formal, precise and firm, almost as much so as that of a child, who thinks the dead will hear if you cry loud enough. But in Michelangelo you have maturity, the mind of the grown man, dealing cautiously and dispassionately with serious things; and what hope he has is based on the consciousness of ignorance—ignorance of man, ignorance of the nature of the mind, its origin and capacities." And much the same can be said of many of the greatest of that vigorous rebirth of this most intensely human side of the Renaissance spirit, known as the Romantic movement, of Goethe, of Shelley, of Coleridge even, whose religious conscience could not curb his wistful speculations. Nothing precise and formal can be resolved from the perplexities of life for them as it can for Dante and the Gothic builders. It is mystery, after all, that expresses best our feelings towards life. Perhaps Sir Gilbert Scott felt that when he hoped that his conception of a cathedral "will make an appeal even to those professing allegiance to no orthodox church, but who, nevertheless, feel that there is a great mystery behind Creation, of which they are vaguely conscious, but of which they can form no adequate conception."

ARNOLD WHITTICK.

Mr. Coppock Blesses a Steel House.

Mr. Coppock, who has done much to render the carrying out of the Weir house difficult, has now given his benediction to another type of steel house. He says:—

"The Atholl steel house, now being erected for the London County Council as a demonstration house, is a development of the steel house that was not anticipated. It is now being erected with a different section of steel to the original Atholl house, which I visited on behalf of the special committee appointed to consider new methods of building. The steel work units, instead of being heavy, vertical sections, are now horizontal. They are much lighter, and do not require the use of a crane to place them in position.

"The house I visited at Westwood's works at Poplar is indeed a wonderful structure. It is the first two-storeyed type of the Atholl house I have seen. The structure is good, and there is no possibility of the percolation of water through the joints of the steelwork because of the ingenious 'joggle' 'S' shaped joint, which the rain cannot penetrate. The outside treatment of stucco is one of the features. One is pleased to be able to express this view of this type of house, because the firm erecting the Atholl house have agreed that the general conditions for its erection shall be those usually applying in the building industry.

"This house is a 100 per cent. better house than the alleged steel house of which there has been so much talk, and it will stand the wear and tear of an industrial town with ordinary care for 60 to 100 years. There can be no doubt as to its stability, and while I still believe there is nothing like brick and stone for the erection of houses for the people, I am of opinion that the steel house of the Atholl type is one of the best substitutes that can be found.

"The treatment of the steel plate in the inner walls is such as to prevent difficulties by dampness or corrosion. The inner lining is that ordinarily used in house-building. The whole structure of the Atholl house can reasonably and fairly be termed a steel house."

We wonder whether this favourable opinion is in any way influenced by the agreement "That the general conditions for its erection shall be those usually applying to the building industry"! We are inclined to believe with Mr. Coppock that there is little to equal brick or stone, and that being agreed possibly he might see his way to render the production of such houses cheaper and easier.

The Villain in the Piece.

A too serious interpretation of the ideal makes architecture uninteresting. Some of our edifices appear to be cold and unconvincing, as if their creators were destitute of love of the beautiful, paupers in imagination, and unskilful in the manipulation of the pencil or brush.

It must be admitted that all good art is a correct mixture of darkness and light, and if there is too much of either ingredient, the production is unbalanced, flat, and unappreciable.

Now in drama the bad villain is equally as important as the good hero. A devil is necessary where there is a good angel. They emphasise each other's qualifications for the parts they have to play. Now it stands to reason that in those architectural creations that in vain cry out for recognition the villain has been banished from the piece, and this may be the reason why the public, who are the real judges in determining to what part of grammar the word "art" belongs, award street architecture such a chilly reception.

Of course we all know—some too well—that a bad contractor sometimes masquerades upon the architectural stage and gives the good architect quite a bad, if not exciting time. But the contractor hardly enters into my scenario any more than a bad scene-shifter enters into the drama. The contractor is merely a transitory agent in materialising the architect's conceptions, and a very bad one is really too sinful to ever be a cultured villain.

At a meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects (see Journal, January 10, 1925), a very serious and significant discussion followed a paper by Mr. A. J. Davis, F.R.I.B.A., on Shop Fronts and their Treatment. Large shopkeepers were present and hinted darkly of certain things. They came on purpose to pick holes in the paper, but could not find any, except to blame the architect for blaming the shopkeeper for the oceans of plate glass sentinelising our streets. A speaker said, or implied, that the shop front should be so alluring that the wayfarer could not pass it without pulling out his purse and becoming reckless with his money. They all felt diffident in saying that shop elevations were too highbrow, and that they had not enough "pep" in them, and that the sermon in stone broadcasted above the sea of glass counteracted the good influence—from the shopkeeper's point of view—of that below. But I think that you will agree with me, and arrive at the same conclusion from personal observation, that the passer-by seldom risks twisting his neck sufficiently to discern what lies above the architectural picture frame.

That is the whole crux of the problem. Our street architecture is not half villainous enough to attract attention. There ought to be dramatic pauses, thrilling episodes, and the knife should be used occasionally. Architecture can talk just as any other art can. It should be able to tell the public (in the language of architecture) the tale it has to tell—that is, the story the shopkeeper mostly desires. Perhaps English architects feel that they have no particular message to impart such as on the Continent. Many of the works abroad seem to possess a certain melodramatic flavour which is decidedly attractive and alluring.

I wish to suggest that some Bohemianism would be an advantage to the architectural mind whilst it rhapsodises in that fanciful region of ideation called the imagination. It will enable the architect to produce a play in stone sufficiently comprehensive enough to be understood by the ordinary person. It has been asserted, and also practically demonstrated, that common beer imbibed in moderate quantities is not only an agreeable liquor possessing piquancy and propitiousness, but it reveals the multifarious and resplendent facets of the human mind, which are as surprising as they are illimitable. I know that many people who exercise the artistic faculties for a living, and converse with the world by means of the pencil or brush, adopt beer as an excellent lubricant to oil the hinges of their mental portals. Architects are singularly immune from this practice, except in some cases, known to myself, where they sail their craft on a sea of strong liquor and net some good catches.

J. E. REID.



HOUSE AT FINCHFIELD ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON.

One of the stands at the Birmingham Building Exhibition which calls for considerable attention by the visitor is that of the Courtrai-Du Nord Tile Co., Ltd., of 161 Borough High Street, London, S.E.1, who have a very complete exhibit showing to marked effect the beauty of colour and sharpness of detail of this increasingly popular tile.

The firm has recently had a photograph taken of a house in Finchfield Road, Wolverhampton, where their tiles have been used and by the courtesy of the company we are enabled to give an illustration of one of the latest examples of the effective application of their roofing tiles which undoubtedly add quality to the design.

Building Progress.

Shops and offices are now in hand on the site of Nos. 136-142 Victoria Street, and along Allerton Street, from the designs of Mr. John Stanley Beard. Holliday & Greenwood, Ltd., are the general contractors; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., for constructional steelwork, and New Peterborough Brick Co., Ltd., for Fletton bricks.

In the offices now being converted from the Fire Brigade quarters at the Cannon and Queen Victoria Street Station, the architect (Mr. Delissa Joseph, F.R.I.B.A.) is using metal windows supplied by the Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd.; Waygood-Otis lifts are being used; Messrs. C. P. Roberts & Co., are the builders employed for the work.

The Goring Hotel, Ebury Street, is having a large wing extension added. Messrs. Dove Brothers, Ltd., the general contractors; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., are supplying the constructional steelwork; and Kleine Patent Flooring Syndicate Ltd. are laying their patent floors. The new façade will be in mottled and red gauged brickwork.

The New Cross Kinema is to be opened shortly and will form an important addition to New Cross Road. We believe that the architect is Mr. G. S. N. Stone; the builder is J. Watt; H. Young & Co., Ltd., are supplying the structural steelwork, and have had to meet the requirements of one of the widest picture houses built. The very great fall in the site from the highway along the side road has lent itself satisfactorily to the planning of the house, which consists of floor and one gallery. Henry Hope & Sons, Ltd. (London and Birmingham), are responsible for the central heating and hot water supply. A stage is also provided for variety entertainments.

In Well Hall Road, Eltham, a terrace of lock-up shops with self-contained flats over has just been erected from the designs

of Mr. W. Henden Winder, who also designed the adjacent shops. E. J. Logan is the builder for the latter. Several small houses are also in course of erection close by with S. Browne as builder, John Knowles & Co. supplying the lime.

This part of Eltham is in a great state of building activity, for near by, at Eltham Green, the Woolwich Borough Council is developing an estate for small housing requirements, and are acting as contractors for the work by means of direct labour. The London Brick Co., and Forders, Ltd.'s "Phorpres" Fletttons are being used, and "S.D." red bricks for facings, though yellow facings are also being used; G. A. Harvey & Co.'s galvanised iron tested tanks are largely in evidence, and independent boilers supplied by Callender Iron Co., Ltd.

A large toy factory is in course of erection in Lee High Road, for Mr. Patterson Edwards, the builders being Thomas & Edge.

The Gas Light & Coke Company's new premises in Seven Sisters Road, near its junction with Holloway Road, form an interesting block at this point. The architects, we understand, are Messrs. Tapper. Amongst sub-contractors, H. Young & Co., Ltd., are supplying the structural steelwork; Ragusa Company the asphalt; Bainbridge, Reynolds's metal work for doors, etc., and brass counter fittings is being used; Dove Brothers are the general contractors. The latter firm is prominently in evidence in the streets around and about; amongst other places we note them in a large block of business premises in St. John Street, Clerkenwell, and again in new premises in Hatton Wall, where the Aston Construction Co. is supplying the structural steelwork.

The Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition.

Sir H. Kingsley Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, opened, at the Bingley Hall, yesterday afternoon, the Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition, which has been organised under the auspices of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. The exhibition, which will remain open until the 19th inst., presents a comprehensive display of equipment and materials appertaining to the building industry, and the aim of its promoters is to bring together, for the edification of those interested in the solution of the housing problem, the results of recent scientific research bearing upon the question.

The Lord Mayor (Alderman Percival Bower), who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, presided over the opening ceremony, and among those present, besides Sir H. Kingsley Wood, were Councillor Herbert E. Parkes (president of the Chamber of Commerce) and Alderman Talbot (chairman of the Birmingham Public Works Committee).

The Lord Mayor said that the present exhibition could rank as one of the most enterprising undertakings with which the City of Birmingham had been closely associated, and evidence was to hand that gave rise to the anticipation of vast possibilities arising from the present Exhibition. The year 1925 had been selected as affording the most opportune time to present a wide display of equipment and materials relating to the building industry, and with this object in view a happy combination of all the important progressive trade organisations, representing the technical and operative aspect, with the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce undertaking the business organisation, had resulted in a most instructive exhibition, which, he believed, was going to be of considerable benefit, not only to the city, but also to the Midlands and the country as a whole. The primary purpose of the exhibition was to stimulate interest in what was undoubtedly one of the most important social problems of the day, and to secure co-ordination of knowledge in the light of science and a systematic promotion of research, so that orderly development of all the agencies which made for the betterment of the industry might be secured. The exhibition presented an exceptionally good opportunity to all interested in the building and allied trades of displaying under the best possible conditions their productions to architects, builders, and others throughout the country. Few cities, added the Lord Mayor, were more actively interested in the questions of house-building and road-construction than Birmingham. Last year the Public Works Department were responsible for spending on the maintenance of the city's highways no less a sum than £355,000, and on the upkeep of sewers and rivers £61,000. The total expenditure of the Public Works Committee last year was £781,000. They had in the city 625 miles of adopted highways to maintain, so that those who were prone to ask where the rate of 16s. in the pound was going to might find a little solatium from an examination of that aspect of the matter. The Public Works Committee were faced with another problem—that of road development. The type of traffic passing over the roads was altogether different from that for which the roads were originally constructed, so that in all probability large sums of money would have to be expended in the immediate future in order to make the roads available for the kind of traffic they had now to carry. It became immediately necessary to spend £47,000 in road maintenance, to be increased in eighteen months to nearly £89,000, in two years to £108,000, and in three years to £160,000; and probably they would have to face an extraordinary expenditure of no less than £683,000. These were astonishing figures, which gave cause for serious reflection.

With regard to the housing question, his lordship pleaded that goodwill by all parties concerned in the building industry would undoubtedly provide a happy and satisfactory solution of the problem. The latest survey of the housing needs of Birmingham had disclosed the fact that 20,783 further municipal houses were required. 6,500 houses had already been erected and occupied. And the

Public Works and Town Planning Committee were constructing at the present moment many further thousands, though it was the pride of Birmingham to be able to assert that they had accomplished more than any other municipality in this direction—they were well aware of the fact that they had hardly touched the fringe of the problem. During the next twenty years no fewer than one hundred thousand houses would be needed if the uprising generations were accommodated in a satisfactory manner. The yearly demand for the next 20 years under normal condition was placed at 3,000 houses. To this must be added the houses required in connection with the replacement of slum property. During the next twenty years it was estimated that the slum clearance schemes would involve the erection of at least 25,000 houses.

It was a grave problem with which they were faced, and they must approach it with courage and with the full sense of its magnitude.

Sir Kingsley Wood, in opening the exhibition, described the housing problem as one of the most serious and difficult questions which the country had to face at the present moment. The Lord Mayor had given particulars to the extent of the problem so far as Birmingham was concerned, and he could only say that in many respects they were typical of very many of the large cities of the country. It would be idle for anyone occupying such a position as he occupied to say that even after six years of strenuous work the housing difficulty had been overcome. No one could deny the existing evidence of overcrowding. But there was another aspect of the situation which was of an optimistic and cheerful character. He thought it could be said that, thanks to the efforts of a large number of people, last year was a record year so far as house building was concerned. He had had furnished to him the latest official figures relating to this matter. During the twelve months ended March 31 last no fewer than 136,889 houses were completed, and of this number 67,669 were completed with the assistance of the State subsidy. The remaining 69,220 houses were constructed without any subsidy at all. It was often said these houses must be of a type that did not affect the working people of this country. Of the 136,000 houses no fewer than 117,817 were classed as workmen's houses, and that figure showed that by far the greater proportion of the building that took place last year was directed to meet the needs of the workers. Another interesting fact was that of the 136,889 houses, 116,261 were built by private enterprise, and 20,628 by local authorities. Therefore, whatever their views might be on political subjects, he thought they could thank private enterprise a great deal for what was accomplished last year.

As regards the building activities of this year, up to the present there was every indication that—provided there was no slackening—the total number of houses built in 1925 would greatly exceed the number built last year.

There was no doubt, notwithstanding our difficulties, which were very great, that there was a considerable improvement, and that some headway was being made. He thought Mr. Neville Chamberlain's remarkable success could be attributed not to any dramatic solution of the housing problem, but to the fact that the Ministry had pursued a national policy, and had called to their aid every kind and form of agency that would help. Acts of Parliament and schemes which the present Government's predecessors had promulgated had been fairly worked, and, with the measures the Government had adopted, they had at last got to what he might call the turn; and there was no doubt about it that at the present moment, for the first time in the history of housing since the war, they had not only met the natural increase in the population, but they were at last beginning to catch up the unfortunate shortage which existed.

Birmingham had certainly played a very considerable part in coping with a critical situation. The city had also done a great deal through its Municipal Bank to enable occupiers to become the owners of their houses. Although they were dealing now with the shortage of housing accom-

moderation, they had also to consider the tragedy of the slums, which still remained a festering sore in too many parts of the country. It was fair to say that the building trade at the present moment was in many ways fully occupied, but he would commend the study of new methods of building. Unless they could devise some method by which the present building programme could be greatly accelerated, possibly the slums might have to remain for an indefinite period. He did not wish to force any new type of house, but the community themselves would have to be the judges of their value. He wished every success to the exhibition, which he had great pleasure in declaring open.

On the motion of Councillor Parkes, a vote of thanks was accorded Sir Kingsley Wood, and on the motion of Mr. P. A. Gilbert Wood, J.P., a similar vote was passed to the Lord Mayor.

The Exhibition opened on Monday last, and over thirteen hundred people visited Bingley Hall during the time 11 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.; these are the figures given to us and should be an omen of good success.

At 2.10 Monday afternoon, on entering the Hall, one could not help an appreciative surprise to find a compact, comprehensive Exhibition perfectly ready for the visitor. The arrangements for opening were expeditiously carried out and the small hall was well filled by an attentive audience. After the formal opening, Sir Kingsley Wood was conducted round the Exhibition by the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, the President of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Stanley, the General Manager, the Chairman of the Housing Committee, and Mr. Gilbert Wood. Most of the larger stands were visited, and considerable interest shown at the exhibits thereon.

The management are to be heartily congratulated on several points in connection with this exhibition; first and foremost, of course, is the fact that everything was finished, then the class of exhibitor showing, and finally on the uniform style in which the stands have been erected, so that even those who may have taken smaller spaces are enabled to make an effective and useful exhibit of the goods they are showing.

Undoubtedly one felt that the exhibition was under able and effectual management.

A further reference to exhibitors gives an opportunity to refer to some not mentioned in our last issue.

Messrs. Acme Patent Ladder Co., Summerley Street, Earlsfield, London, S.W.18, are showing a large variety of their well-known Acme Patent Telescopic Extension Ladders in various sizes and patterns. Trucks, trolleys, and barrows also form part of their display.

Messrs. The Aston Junction Co., Ltd., general builders' merchants, Aston Road, Birmingham, successfully make an effective display with numerous well-known slates, including Old Delabole (with a continuous history extending over the past 300 years), Bangor, Portmadoc, Bangar, and also of the more recent production of asbestos cement slates in various colours. A large selection of roofing tiles, both hand-made and machine, is shown. The Aston Junction Co., Ltd., are slating contractors as well as suppliers. A special feature is made of best Swedish doors, which appear to be exceptionally well finished, and are mortised and tenoned throughout.

Messrs. Bristol Street Motors, Ltd., 168-172 Bristol Street, Birmingham, are showing a Muir-Hill Equipped Fordson Dump Shovel Tractor, amongst other exhibits of a very interesting character. Quantities up to 20 tons of loose material can be readily loaded by one man in a single hour by means of this invention. Another exhibit of noteworthy interest on this stand is the Standard 5-ton Haulage Outfit, the trailer of which is fitted with an automatic tipping device.

Messrs. Buderus Trading Co., Ltd., 107-9 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.4, with works in Wetzlar, Germany, are exhibiting cast iron white porcelain enamelled ware of various kinds, such as baths, basins, sinks, etc.

Messrs. Carr's, Birmingham, Ltd., Artillery Street Works, Birmingham. This well-known Birmingham firm, which has devoted many years to supplying decorators and contractors, has arranged a very effective exhibit. Amongst an extensive array will be found the first cellulose enamel ever produced. It

is claimed to be unchippable and that it can be bent without cracking, and that the surface is perfect in every respect. Such claims command interest, and those who visit the stand will be able to form a very favourable impression of this new enamel.

Messrs. Arthur Collier, 453 Brixton Road, Brixton, London, S.W.9, is exhibiting a new invention, the "Shetack" Saw. It is strongly constructed of steel with a cast steel blade. The angle at which the hack saw blade is held in the frame enables it to cut through any length or width of material.

Messrs. The De Vilbiss Co., Ltd., West Drayton, Middlesex. These exhibitors are showing a spraying equipment suitable for applying paint, distemper, varnish, or thin tar, by compressed air more expeditiously than it can be applied by brushing. The compressing plant is petrol-driven. The equipment is suitable for exterior work of all kinds. For interior work a small electric plant is useful if that power is available. A visit by those interested in labour-saving in connection with this branch of work will undoubtedly repay all the time spent.

Messrs. Drew, Clark & Co., Diamond Patent Ladder Works, Leyton, London, E.10, are showing ladders and steps for all purposes. The "Raprig" Patent Scaffolding is also displayed, and visitors are able to appreciate its many advantages at a single glance.

The Elsan Manufacturing Co., 34-35 High Holborn, W.C.1, show on a Stand their portable closets which require no running water, the soil being chemically treated. It is claimed that this system is perfectly odourless and specially suitable for bungalows, camps, etc. A permanent model is also shown with one or multiple units suitable for factories, consisting of a cylindrical tank in which is placed a charge of chemical and fixed under the floor or below the ground, above being white vitreous earthenware bowls with polished hardwood seats. When the tank becomes full the contents are discharged through a waste valve and the tank recharged with chemical.

Messrs. T. C. Enstone & Co. (Succrs.), Ltd., Pyramid Engineering Works, Evelyn Road, Greet, Birmingham. This Stand consists of a well-arranged display of high-class plumbers' fittings, in brass, gunmetal and whitmetal. The firm's London office is Balfour House, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.2.

Messrs. Eyre & Sons, Ltd., manufacturers and merchants, Ryland Works, Chesterfield, are showing some beautiful white porcelain enamelled baths. A special feature of the exhibit is the bath supplied at competitive prices for housing schemes; its quality should be inspected by all those interested.

Messrs. A. D. Foulkes, Ltd., Lionel Street, Birmingham, are showing a display of high-grade sanitary fittings, consisting of modern designs for baths, lavatories and w.c.'s. White "Klense" bath room fittings which do not crack or discolour are also displayed. A special feature has been made of laboratory fittings, many of the examples being duplicate patterns of fittings supplied to the leading hospitals throughout the country.

Messrs. Goodman & Co., New Wharf, Selly Oak, Birmingham, occupy two Stands and have arranged in the limited space at their disposal an exhibit of great interest. Numerous panels to show the textural finishes for stucco work in Atlas white Portland cement afford architects an opportunity of observing the varying fine effects obtained and of selecting the most pleasing for the particular work they have in hand. It is also used in the carved concrete ornamental and coloured work and cast stone porch and balustrading, Messrs. Goodman & Co. being the local agents for Atlas white Portland cement (The Adamite Co., Ltd.).

Battledown Roofing Tiles have a reputation for colour and texture, and a good display is made of them on this stand, other features being crazy paving, garden walling, etc., a comprehensive display of building materials and an exhibit of raw materials as quarried and showing the stages of manufacture to the finished "Blue Circle" Portland cement supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Ltd.

Messrs. W. H. Keys, Ltd., Hall End Works, West Bromwich. On this stand visitors will see displayed a solution of Bitumen, named Mastic Bituminous Solution. It is claimed that for the preservation of iron, steel, stone, wood, and all metal structures, this solution is of very high quality. The firm are also showing samples of Breala Bitumen Dampcourse, Lignolite Wood Preservative, Anti Damp, Bitumen Wood Block Mastic, Bitumen Roofing Mastic, &c.

Messrs. Mellowes & Co., Ltd., Corporation Street, Sheffield, must have expended great care in connection with their stand. The whole effect is very artistic in character. The manner in which Messrs. Mellowes manufactures have been incorporated in the general display must call forth unstinted praise. Metal casements, steel sashes, doors, partitions, and leaded lights of varying designs, are harmoniously arranged, and the visitor

Danger of Dry Rot in hidden woodwork.



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Preserving
Stain,
18
Colours.*

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

is never hampered in forming a favourable opinion by some clashing feature.

Messrs. Merrick & Heath, Rolfe Street Mills, Smethwick, display a variety of materials. The firm manufacture, paints and varnishes. A good range of glazed sanitary ware is worthy of special attention. Some new effects in tiling are to be seen on the stand, illustrating the fact that the exhibitors desire to be associated with new ideas. They hold exclusive agencies for The Mitcham Japan & Varnish Co., Ltd., and for Messrs. Cafferata & Co., Ltd., for reinforced plaster slabs. The firm is well known for their organisation in connection with the supply of materials for housing schemes.

Messrs. The Midland Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., Dudley Port, Tipton, exhibit examples of expanded metal applicable to reinforced concrete work, expanded metal lathing for plaster work, and expanded metal strip effectively used in brick work. Messrs. Walls, Ltd., Fazeley Street, Birmingham, are also exhibiting on this stand, and as specialists in the manufacture of partitions, screens, cloak room fittings, sheet steel bins, shelving, etc., the attractiveness of this combined display is greatly increased.

The Midland Joinery Works, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent, have prepared an excellent display of joinery and turnery, including numerous examples of doors in oak and Columbian pine, all made at their works. A quarter full size model of a doorway in teak, suitable for a public building, is interesting, having been made by hand by the managing director, Mr. M. Codling, when working at the bench as an operative, for the City and Guilds of London examination.

Messrs. Naylor Brothers (London) Ltd. are responsible for a fine display of their many products which include superfine varnishes for many different purposes, paints, enamels, and distempers. The firm works are at Slough, Buckinghamshire, and the exhibit at this exhibition should be carefully examined. Many new effects are displayed and in these times when colour supplies so much towards our general pleasure at home, too much time cannot well be devoted to a stand which displays many unique ideas.

Pollard Engineering Co., Ltd., Palace House, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.3, have displayed a wide range of models of their safety geyser made in two sizes with output of 1½ galls. to 3 galls. respectively at a temperature of approximately 120°. The burner, specially designed of Bunsen type, burns without fumes. The construction of the geyser, in which are no tube or coils, consists of a series of perforated trays, which are "staggered," over which the water flows, and are open and free, rendering an explosion impossible if the gas is left burning and the water supply cut off. The burner acts directly on the lowest copper tray, and the heat is forced under each baffled tray, heating the water as it passes from the top tray, resulting in a continuous outflow of hot water. Easily fixed with brackets to any position, and being very moderate in price, they should solve the difficulty of giving a hot water supply for housing schemes as well as finding favour with householders.

Messrs. Roberts, Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Tyseley, Birmingham, manufacturers of paints, varnishes and enamels, show on a Stand some of the new and older products which have aided in the building up of the reputation they have established. One of their latest productions is Permoglaze, a liquid glaze for walls. Applied to brick, plaster, concrete, etc., it sets, after being exposed for a short time to the air, with a hard tile-like surface, which is germ-proof and sanitary, and will not soften however often it be washed, nor will it chip. It is easily applied in the same way as paint, and is supplied in white and various colours. It has already been largely used in hospitals, breweries, food factories, warehouses, laundries, kitchens, &c. Glazebrook's No. 1 Flat White for all foundation work or used alone, producing a most decorative flat finish on inside walls or woodwork; Linovar high gloss paint for outdoor or indoor work, made in white and a full range of colours, and Carbolastic metal paint for coating corrugated iron buildings and iron and steel structures, are amongst this firm's varied exhibit. Carbolastic prevents rust and is impervious to all weather conditions, resists corrosive atmospheres and does not crack nor chip. It is made in numerous shades and supplied ready for use. On the Borough of Burnley five-lift gasholder over 190,000 sq. ft. of surface was painted with Carbolastic.

Messrs. The Simplex Floor Planing & Treatment Co., Ltd., 7 Finch Street, London, E.1. This exhibit consists of machinery which is designed to plane, sandpaper and polish wooden floors. The power is electricity and the machines can be used for every type of flooring.

The Standard Metal Windows, recently taken over by Stonehouse Works Co., of Houghton Street, West Bromwich, are

showing in an effective way Standard cottage windows, French doors and casements, which are well designed and finished.

Messrs. John Stather & Sons, Ltd., Leonard Street, Hull. On this stand some splendid wall papers are attractively displayed. So much depends on the manner in which wall papers are presented to the client, and Messrs. John Stather & Sons, Ltd., are to be complimented on having realised this important point in a very marked degree.

Messrs. Walker & Worsey, Ltd., 10, 12 and 14 Edmund Street, Birmingham. On this stand many interesting exhibits will be seen. Henderson's tangent gear, for works and garage doors, Henderson's system gear, for sliding, folding and collapsible doors, H. & T. V-cylinder mortice and rim locks, and latches form, perhaps, the chief items of a well-selected display.

Messrs. Walpamur Co., Ltd., paint, enamel and varnish manufacturers, 66 Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, also at James Watt Street, with head offices and works at Darwen, Lancs, have arranged an exhibit which comprises a loggia, kitchen, lounge hall and boudoir. The kitchen is painted with "Duradio" enamel paint, which may be easily washed without lessening its gloss or injuring its finish. The boudoir has been decorated with "Muromatt," a flat oil paint, the woodwork of the room being subjected to a finish with "Mirabol" enamel, the two effects harmonising in a pleasing and restful manner.

Messrs. S. R. Wilkinson & Son, 162 Columbia Road, Great Grimsby, are exhibiting a model of their ITS-A-TWIN machine. It is claimed by the inventors and manufacturers that this machine will create a new epoch in concrete-block making. Doors and window head making, sills, channelling, steps, kerbs, etc., can be produced in a facile and speedy manner. The simple pressure of one of the twin levers, through a quarter of a circle, delivers the blocks from twin box-moulds as fast as human labour-power can fill them.

Messrs. Woco Door Company, Dashwood House, London, E.C.2, are showing a comprehensive selection of Woco and Woco Laminex doors. The Woco door is well known, and has found great favour with many municipal authorities in connection with their extensive housing schemes. Architects have also expressed their appreciation of its style and reliability. The manufacturers have spared no pains to place on the market a large variety of patterns so as to meet the many different tastes that prevail and the exhibit at this exhibition should secure many new friends for the Woco door.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1875.

ARCHITECTURAL ESPRIT DE CORPS: ILLIBERALITY.

One good rule that may be invariably permitted to claim attention is this—that no architect should pass an opinion upon the charges of another until a personal explanation of them has been received from himself. It is too late to ask for such particulars after the mischief has been done, and it is never too early to ask for them before. There are right and wrong in all things, and no doubt it happens quite often enough that an architect's demand of remuneration may be fairly open to criticism; but it ought always to be remembered that an architect's bill is not like the account of a shopkeeper in which every line is a plain assertion of quantity and price, or like the bill of costs of an attorney wherein the forms rather than the facts of service are set forth upon an established system which renders explanation superfluous. The schedule of the Institute, already referred to, no doubt goes a long way towards the recognition of general principles, and such a thing cannot be too highly approved as a guide to all parties; but if there be anything in what we have said about its incertitude in detail it is plain that the difficulty of making out an architect's bill that shall be perfectly clear and indisputable is still very considerable, and it follows that there must in every case be something upon which the claimant is entitled to a hearing before being condemned.

Another good rule is that he who finds himself in the position of an arbitrator upon a brother's claims—or upon his conduct, we may equally say—should always bear in mind the axiom that attack is generally more easy than defence.

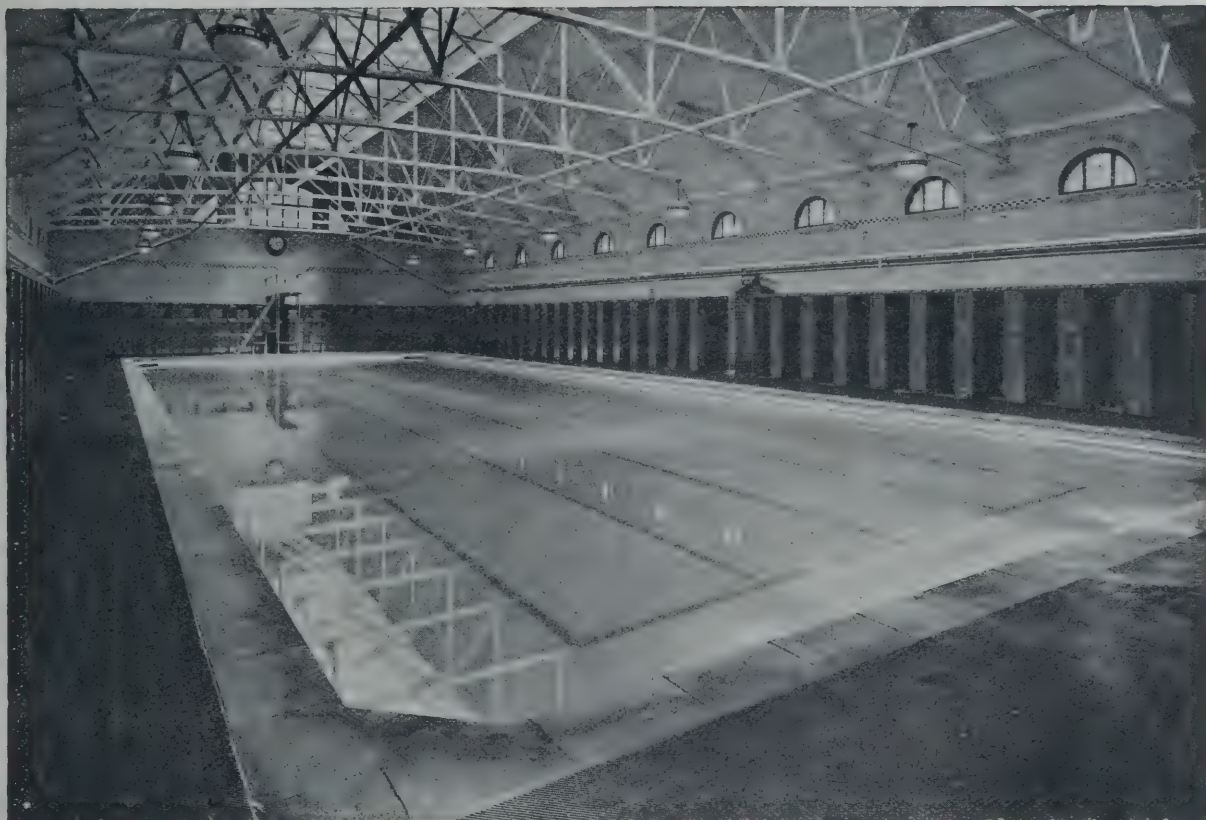
If these two rules could be thoroughly established we should hear less of the complaint before us.

Boyle's patent "Air Pump" ventilators have been applied to Whittington Barracks, Lichfield. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

We are informed that the British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., have been successful in obtaining a six months' contract for the supply of Mazda lamps to the Southern Railway.

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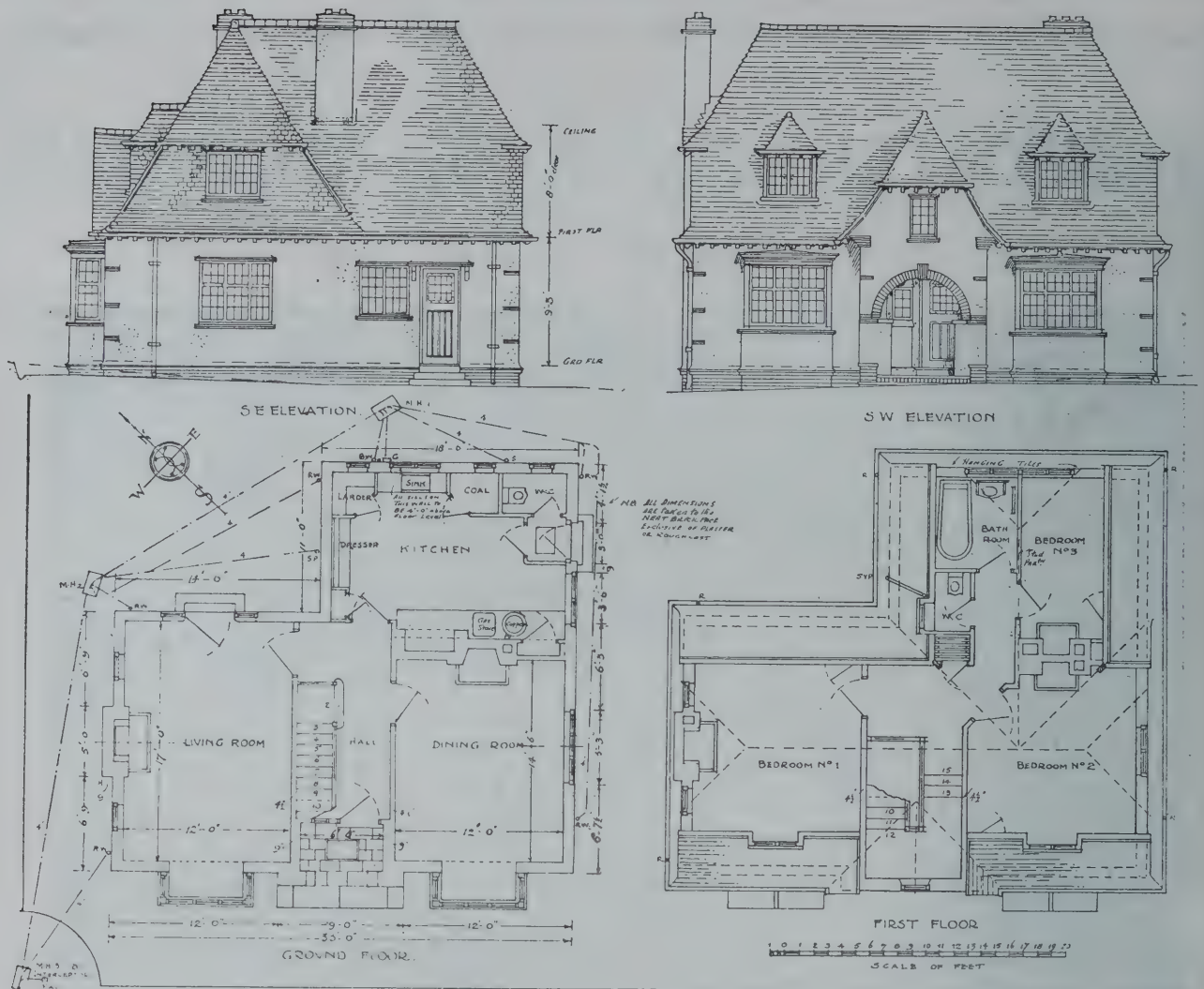
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HOUSE AT SILVERDALE ROAD, BUSHEY. ALBERT BULLOCK, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

General News.

BLACKPOOL.—The vicar (the Rev. J. Crabtree) is commencing a scheme for new buildings at Marton St. Pauls, the buildings consisting of a new school and vicarage. The present buildings are to be sold and new ones erected in their places. No architect has yet been appointed to prepare the plans. The site has been purchased.

BLEACH GREEN.—Plans are shortly to be prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for an elementary school at Bleach Green.

BOLTON.—The Rev. J. Burke is submitting to the Corporation plans for a secondary school at Thornleigh, Shapples Park.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the scheme for the extensions at the Hacken sewage works at a cost of £132,000.—The Corporation are to subsidise another 250 houses.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Devonshire Road, for Mr. J. Uttley; 16 houses, Kingston Avenue, &c., for Messrs. Leigh Bros., Ltd.; 8 houses, Hampton Road, for Messrs. E. Taylor, Son & Co.; 5 houses, Hollywood Road, for Mr. William Draper; 4 houses, Wigan Road, for Messrs. John Booth & Sons; transformer house, Halliwell Bleachworks, for Messrs. R. Ainsworth, Son & Co.; streets, Aldred Street and Chilham Street, for Bridgewater Estates, Ltd.; 8 houses, new road off Green Lane, for Mr. Thos. Blakeley; 14 houses, Normanby Street, for Mr. John S. Hughes; 6 houses, Lever Edge Lane, for Mr. Ernest Howard; 4 houses, Ashworth Lane, for Mr. George Sykes; 13 houses, Highfield Road, &c., for Mr. Norman Halliwell; 4 houses, Tonge Moor Road, for Mr. Albert Coward.

BOLTON.—The Minister of Health is concerned as to whether the carrying out of the proposed Town Hall extension and the other municipal buildings will delay the solution of the housing problem. The Central Area Improvement Sub-Committee, after full inquiries, were satisfied that the carrying out of the scheme would not interfere with housing needs, and instructed Messrs. Bradshaw, Gass & Hope to proceed with the preparation of estimates of cost.

BRONDESUR.—Middlesex Education Committee have ac-

quired land from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners at Brondesbury for the erection of a secondary school.

BURNLEY.—The Education Committee of the Burnley Town Council are proposing to erect new schools at Lionel Street, at a cost of £32,000. The school will comprise a senior school for 400 children, a junior school with similar accommodation, and a domestic subject centre, and are to be constructed on the semi open-air principle. The plans have been prepared by the borough engineer and surveyor, Mr. A. Race, and the contractors are as follows: Joiners' work, Clegg Bros., Burnley; plumbers' work, H. Nutter, Burnley; Slaters' work, Barnes & Oates, Burnley; painters' work, Corporation Painting Department; plasterers' work, Richard Guest, Burnley; masons' work, Mullen & Durkin, Burnley. The work will commence as soon as sanction to loan has been given by the Ministry of Health.

BURNOPFIELD.—A site is being secured by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Burnopfield.

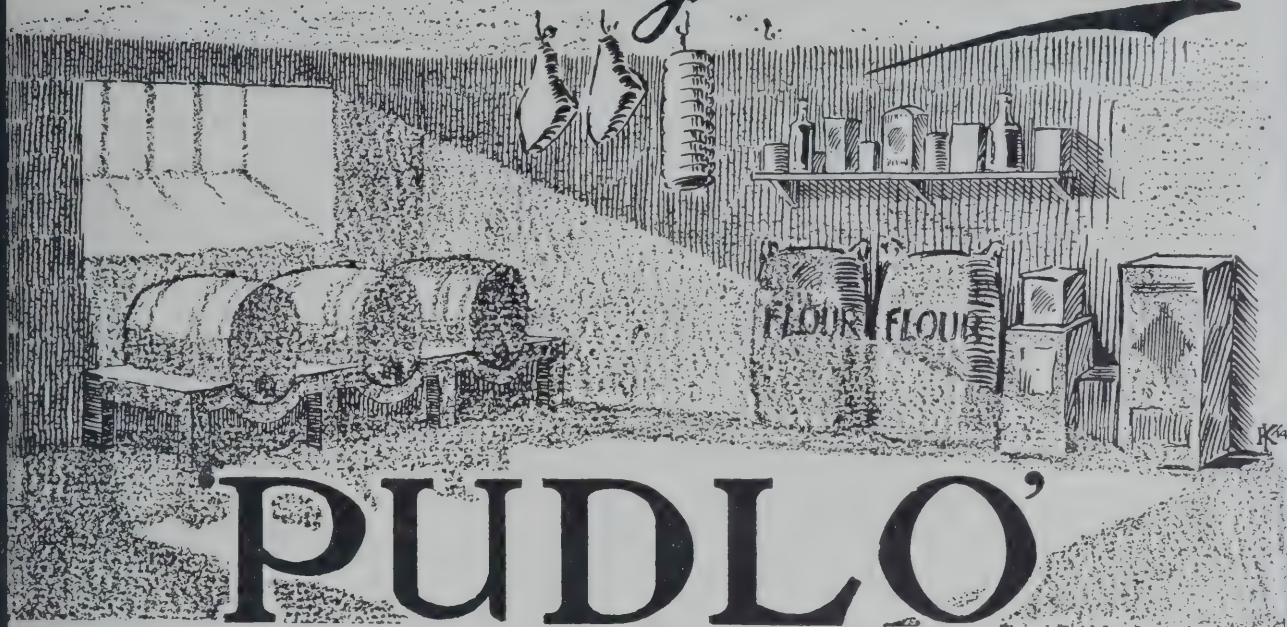
BUXTON.—Norfolk County Education Committee have arranged for the enlargement of the mixed school at Buxton at a cost of about £1,000.

CARDIFF.—The undermentioned denominations have applied for sites on the Ely Housing scheme: The Forward Movement; Church of England, Ely; Cardiff and District Baptist Union; Cardiff and District Congregational Board; Roman Catholic, Talbot Street; Mission Hall, Plymouth Brethren; and Wesleyan Methodist.

CARNARVON.—Owing to the death of Mr. Rowland Lloyd Jones, it is proposed by the Corporation to appoint his son, Mr. Westbury Lloyd Jones, as architect to complete the 58 houses now being erected.—Plan passed: alterations, Alexandra Hotel, St. David's Road, for Messrs. Worthington & Co., Ltd.

CHADDERTON.—The Rev. S. F. Cornell, of Denton Lane Church, is proposing the erection of a permanent church, and funds are

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M.G.P.

being raised for this purpose. No architect has been appointed, and the site has not yet been secured.

CHADDERTON.—The Chadderton District Council at their meeting resolved to apply to the Ministry of Health for sanction to borrow £41,356 for the purpose of reconstructing Burnley Lane. It was contemplated to make the road 100 feet wide in the future, with a carriage way of 40 feet wide. Plans have been prepared for the scheme by the borough surveyor, Mr. Cox.—The Council decided to ask for competitive designs under conditions approved by the Clerk and approved by the Committee of the new public baths and washhouses proposed to be erected on land belonging to the Corporation at Whitegate, the designs to include the following:—Ladies' and gentlemen's swimming bath, 25 yards by 12 yards, 12 ladies' private baths, 12 gentlemen's private baths, public washhouses (36), stalls and superintendent's houses.—The Council are proposing to erect 50 new houses in North Chadderton and 20 on Denton Lane, a total of 70.

CHESTER.—The Corporation are granting a lease of land at Tocor Fields to the Croscille Motor Co., Ltd.—The Housing Committee recommend a contract with Messrs. Selwood, Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Rock Ferry, for the erection of 102 houses, including combined drains, upon the Heath Lane housing estate for the sum of £49,164.

COLCHESTER.—The Joint Committee of the county councils of Cambridgeshire, Essex, East Suffolk and West Suffolk have agreed to recommend the purchase of the Royal Eastern Counties Institution at Colchester and to carry out a scheme of extensions, the architect to be the Essex county architect.

COUNDON.—Durham County Education Committee are to acquire a site at Coundon for the erection of an elementary school.

DUNDEE.—The Scottish Board of Health have approved the scheme of the Corporation for the erection of 216 houses on the Alpin Road estate.—On the Craigiebank estate 36 "flatted" houses are to be built by direct labour.—Tenders are shortly to be invited for the construction of 200 concrete houses on the Lawton site.—The Housing Committee are considering the acquisition of land at Blackcroft for a housing scheme.—The Cleansing Committee are purchasing land at Farfield Road for the erection of new stables.—The directors of the Sidlaw sanatorium are preparing for a scheme for providing accommodation for double the number of children now accommodated.—Twenty acres at Mid Craigie are being purchased for the extension of the Eastern Necropolis.—The Markets Committee are considering the erection of new slaughterhouses on modern lines.—The city engineer is to prepare a scheme for repairs at the Meadows washhouses.—The housing director has had tenders for the erection of 20 steel houses from the Atholl Steel Houses, Ltd., and Messrs. G. & J. Weir, Ltd. The manufacturers of the Atholl houses offered to erect five flatted blocks of four houses each, of three apartments, at £409 6s. per house, including transport. The director reports that the all-in cost of the Atholl house would be £507 16s. and for the Weir house £460, as against the all-in cost of £450 for a brick house. The Housing Committee decided to inquire if the Board of Health would agree to the erection of 20 Atholl houses at the price quoted.—Messrs. J. & E. Shepherd, on behalf of the Northern Housing Association, Ltd., has submitted a proposal for the erection of 152 houses at Thornbank and Ellengowan, the cost being estimated at from £440 to £460. The Housing Committee have agreed to subsidise 56 of the proposed houses.

EAST SUFFOLK.—Plans have been prepared by the East Suffolk County Council for a nurses home at St. Audry's Hospital.

ELLESMERE PORT.—A loan of £3,225 is to be sought for the purchase of land for housing purposes.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Fern Road, Whitby, for Miss Foxall; lay out of Humphrey's Croft estate, for Messrs. France & Heywood; bakery, Newton Road, for Mr. Fowler.

EMNETH.—Norfolk County Education Committee have acquired a site at Emneth for the erection of an elementary school.

EXETER.—As a memorial to the late Provost Hobson, the congregation of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Exeter, are proposing to erect a tower to their church. The vicar is the Rev. Father Barney, and the architects appointed are Messrs. Stokes and Drysdale, of London, and contractors being Messrs. Steven and Co., Cathedral Builders, Exeter.

FESTINOG.—Plans have been prepared by the Merioneth County Council for a new bridge at Festiniog.

GLASGOW.—The Corporation have asked the city engineer to prepare plans for a branch library on a site in Oxford Lane.—The Water Committee are being asked to consider the erection of houses for men permanently employed by the water department.—The Library Committee are considering the provision of a library for the Pollokshaws district.—The Water Committee

have prepared a scheme for draining 6,000 acres of land on Corporation farms at Loch Katrine and the provision of fencing.—Schemes for repairs at Blackfriars and St. Andrew's parish churches are under consideration.—A scheme has been prepared for the extension of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Commercial College.—The pavilion at the Dalmarnock Power Station recreation ground is to be enlarged.—In connection with the proposed new halls at Bridgeton, it is proposed to obtain expert advice in regard to heating and ventilating, constructional steel work and ferro-concrete constructional work.—The city engineer is to report on schemes for alterations and improvements at the Maryhill and South Wellington Street police offices.—The Housing Committee recommend granting the subsidy in respect of 160 terrace houses to be built by Messrs. Mactaggart & Mickel, Ltd., at King's Park.

GLOSSOP.—The Corporation have instructed the borough surveyor to prepare a design for a brick or stone building for purposes of an isolation hospital, to accommodate 24 patients and staff, for erection in sections.

HEATON MERSEY.—The Committee of the Heaton Mersey Lads' Club are proposing to erect new premises. The secretary is Mr. H. M. Hughes, of No. 10 St. Johns Road, Heaton Mersey, and he advises that at the moment no architect has been appointed and the site has not yet been chosen.

LEEDS.—The city engineer has been asked to prepare layout plans for additional housing schemes at Meanwood, Harehills Lane and York Road.—Further street works are to be undertaken at the Meanwood housing estate at a cost of £7,147.—The Leeds Federation of Building Trade Employers have intimated that they are unable to reduce the prices at which members of the Federation will be prepared to undertake the erection of houses in the city.—The Housing Committee are to negotiate with Messrs. William Airey & Son, Ltd., regarding their offer to erect 500 houses.—Sir Reginald Blomfield has accepted the invitation to prepare a design of the elevation of the buildings to be erected on the north of the proposed improvement of the streets between Victoria Square and St. Peter's Street.—The Corporation have decided to invite Messrs. G. W. Atkinson and H. S. Chorley to co-operate. A third architect is also to be appointed.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the purchase of a site in Coburg Street for the erection of a Training College of Housecraft.—Land at Hunslet is to be acquired for the erection of a branch library.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Old Lane, Beeston, for Mr. Benjamin Whitaker; 4 houses, Lidgett Park Avenue, Roundhay, for Mr. Arthur Dickinson; 4 houses, Ring Road, Shadwell, for Mr. C. H. Crowther; 4 houses, Estcourt Terrace, Headingley, for Mr. Tom Coates; 10 houses, Langdale Avenue, Headingley, for Mr. Horace Broadbent; 12 houses, Park Spring Gardens, Bramley, for Messrs. Tapp & Toothill; 4 houses, Grove Hall Avenue, Beeston, for Messrs. Clarke & Huff; 4 houses, Well House Road, for Messrs. R. Battersby & Son; 4 houses, Cross Nowell Mount, for Mr. Joseph Barker.

LIVERPOOL.—The Liverpool Eye and Ear Infirmary are proposing to erect a new nurses' home, and the architect appointed to prepare the plans is Mr. E. C. Aldridge, of No 14 Castle Street, Liverpool, and the work has not yet been commenced. The nurses have up to now been occupying rooms in the infirmary, and the space thus set at liberty when they depart to their new home will be utilised for the treatment of middle class patients.

MANCHESTER.—The Corporation Art Gallery Committee urge the adaptation of Platt Hall as a branch museum and gallery and are ascertaining the cost of the scheme.—The Baths Committee have decided to proceed with the erection of baths at Chorlton, with the inclusion of Turkish baths in the scheme.—A site in Middleton Road, Crumpsall, is to be acquired for an open-air school.—Land in Barlow Moor Road is to be purchased for the erection of an elementary school.—The tender of Messrs. George Macfarlane & Son, Ltd., has been accepted for the erection of the Ravensbury Street Municipal School.—A manual and cookery centre is to be erected at Heald Place.

NORFOLK.—The Standing Joint Committee have decided to get plans for police houses to be erected at Ashwellthorpe and Northwold.—The Education Committee propose the erection of dwelling houses for teachers at Field Dalling, Melton Constable, Briston, Terrington, Grimston, Martham and Wreham.

SALFORD.—The Corporation are purchasing property in Chape Street for conversion into a show room for the electricity department.

WISBECH.—Two new elementary schools, one for 300 boys and another for 300 girls are to be erected by the Isle of Ely Education Committee at Wisbech on a site in Queen's Road.

WIMBORNE.—The Rev. Chas. Scanlan, of Staplehill Priory, Wimborne, has in hand a project to erect a new church. No plans have yet been prepared, and the architect has not yet been appointed, the site not yet having been procured.

CONTENTS.

Character and Temperament in Design	PAGE 197	The City of the Conqueror	PAGE 206
The Constructional Sculpture of Jacques Lipchitz	202	General News	210
Correspondence	204	The Thorncliffe Type of Houses	214

Character and Temperament in Design.

Most of us can recognise, if we do not fully appreciate, works of genius, and when design belongs to this category we almost cease to think of the minor points of character which are indicated in buildings. The work of Wren is marked by moderation and sanity, and however great the genius displayed may be, we could not point to an example where we should be justified in saying his imagination triumphed over his reason. The work of Michel Angelo bears the impress of greater imagination, and perhaps greater absorption in the immediate problem he had to solve, that of Bernini with a still greater inclination to throw restraint on one side. The brothers Adam work shows the effect of a studied mannerism based on a foundation of cultivated, if artificial, taste; Vanbrugh, the imagination of a scene painter largely indifferent to detail; Hawksmoor, the desire to impress by the unusual, cleverness not held in check by good taste. Dance, in his Newgate design, is a curious instance of the manner in which a designer who may be usually mediocre and commonplace, can under the impulse of unusual absorption in a given subject, produce a work of the first merit and importance. We believe that all the greatest design must be the outcome of unusual absorption in some given project as well as of the possession of unusual ability. Many days and many hours are dead and useless to the designer, except in so far as they are really periods in which unconscious cerebration is taking place. This is a reason why we should not be too impatient of the dead days or easily convinced that we have come to an absolute deadlock. Many have doubtless put aside a problem that they would eventually have mastered through an impatient conviction of failure. But just as we can not truly say that any man has failed before his life's record is finished, we can never say that we shall not, given time and effort, solve the most difficult of architectural problems.

In the minor aspect of design, as a reflection of character, we can readily read indications of a man from his work.

The work of the careless and slipshod has all the appearance of a first rough sketch. The rooms are there, but their disposition, sequence and shape have apparently been the outcome of little consideration. Doors and fireplaces are shown, but their placing, as far as comfort and appearance goes, have not been considered. A corridor is a passage way, wide or narrow, as has proved most easy to the planner. The careless planner is easily detected by the space and disposition of the service parts of a plan which are not thought out with any consideration for their utility.

The competition architect, when employed on private commissions, usually leaves his hall-mark on his drawings. He has become used to making things look trim on paper, and is usually fond of introducing what we may describe as "gadgets." He puts, in most cases, a somewhat exaggerated value on paper

symmetry, and is often too little influenced by local conditions or environment. His work, whether to be built in Cornwall or Caithness, will often be almost the same. But he has usually learnt both how to plan and how to effect economies in planning, and for this reason will usually see and consider more than one way of dealing with every problem he takes up. He may show his client only one rendering of a subject, but it will be a selection from several he has had in his mind and discarded.

The architect who has made a close study of old work and of the locality in which he is building, will usually give his employer a building which sits well upon its site, his work is not likely to be marked by a desire to achieve strict symmetry, and will be more individual than that usually given by the architect habituated to a competitive practice.

He may, on the other hand, very often never think of a specially clever or ingenious arrangement, as his work will not be a selection from several ideas of arrangement, but of an instinctive tendency to follow what we may call a personal tradition. Lastly, his plans will probably come out far better in execution than they have promised on paper.

The careful and somewhat small-minded designer will, in his endeavour to save his client expense, cut down what is required to a minimum. His staircases will be just what suffices for practical purposes, his corridors over narrow and he will never be led away with a desire to create effects.

The imaginative and enthusiastic architect will, sometimes, on the other hand, be careless of his employers' money if he can secure an effect he desires. He will, in his wish to create a vista or to design a staircase, spend more than his client would sanction if he could realise the alternative, or it may lead him to abandon what the client really values for what he does not.

In some way the architect's position is more difficult and complex than that of other professional men. The doctor and his patient have clearly one common wish, which is to preserve life and check disease; moreover, the patient is usually easy to deal with, as the doctor alone possesses the keys of knowledge, or assumed knowledge. Both the lawyer and his client wish, if they are fighting, for the same decisions of the law courts. If a will has to be drawn up, no lawyer can have any other wish than that of his client—that the resulting document should not contain the seeds of conflict. If a title to property has to be investigated, no lawyer can desire less than his client that in his investigation no possible snare shall be overlooked. But the architect's position is less simple. True he wishes to do his best for his client, but he is dealing with matters which the client often believes he knows a good deal about, and has views upon, which do not coincide with those of his architect. The architect is accordingly very frequently exercised in arriving at the mean between two different points of view, and sometimes with others, who attempt to

arrive at a compromise pleases neither himself nor his client in the end.

This is, and must be, his difficulty; but as every cloud is said to have a silver lining, the architect

may find that the art of compromise is interesting in itself, and may learn that tact which ends by confining points which must involve compromise to the smallest limits possible.

Our Illustrations.

THE RAPE OF THE SABINES. From a painting by JULES ROMAIN.

BOYS' SCHOOL, GRAND AVENUE, WORTHING: ELEVATIONS AND SECTIONS.

BOYS' SCHOOL, GRAND AVENUE, WORTHING: PLANS.

ALBERT E. BULLOCK, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

A Geneva War Memorial.

We doubt whether the proposal of a Mr. Corbett at the Geneva Conference will result in any action being taken and we sincerely hope it will not. The proposal is to erect an international war memorial higher than the Eiffel Tower and built up of stages, each one of which will represent the number of men lost by each nation in the war. The idea is at once gruesome and gigantic, but, we understand, was shown in illustrations furnished to each delegate. We do not feel that the world would be the loser if we had no more war memorials, for the real memorial is the consciousness and memory of the years intervening between 1914 and 1918 left on the minds of those who were then living, and we hope that future generations will have brighter and more hopeful memories than those raised by thoughts of what we must all hope may prove the last of the world's great conflicts:

The Dockyards.

We are not surprised at the indignant protests raised against the proposed dismantling of Rosyth and other dockyards now no longer deemed necessary. We quite agree that if it can be proved that the plant and accessories are utilisable for other purposes at the present time they should be so utilised, even if it involved making a present of plant and machinery to private firms. Unfortunately, at the moment, there is too little work to go round and it is not a time at which most manufacturing firms are able to extend operations but rather to contract them. If they moved to Rosyth under these circumstances they would probably produce a shortage of employment elsewhere.

We have heard it argued that it would be a bad thing to cut down the staff of public departments now because it would increase the numbers of the unemployed, but the argument seems to us to contain a fallacy. We know that the immense demands on the taxpayer is a direct cause of the contraction of employment and the only way to meet this is by reducing expenses wherever not actually necessary, trusting in the improvement of general trade which would follow upon the lightening of the burdens of all.

Luxurious Public Buildings.

A Bradford paper comments on the contrast between the luxuriously fitted up Police Courts and the people who transact business there who should, the writer says, be attired in picturesque and gorgeous stage costume to be in keeping with the setting. We do not know the Bradford Police Court or the nature of the council under whose auspices it was built, but we have often noted with some amusement that the more socialistic and radical the public body the more public money they are willing to spend.

Tables, chairs and furniture generally cannot be too good for those who have never owned anything but the cheapest furniture, and the same scale of expenditure—except in professional fees—is usually maintained throughout. We remember hearing that when the Walsall Town Hall was opened to the public it was carpeted completely

with the most costly carpets obtainable, which were completely ruined as the result of rough treatment during the "private view." We know of a workhouse kitchen where the guardians were not willing to have any but the best white glazed bricks for walls 16 ft. high instead of a dado of salt glazed bricks which would have answered every practical purpose, and it is often in such quiet ways that public money, raised out of the proceeds of rates and taxes, trickles quietly away, with little benefit to anyone.

Cheap Bathrooms.

The Mayor of Stalybridge stated that while there was no suggestion made that the authorities objected to their housing plans they stated that a separate bathroom was desirable. This, the Mayor said, they were informed officially could be effected at a cost of £10. Considering that a very cheap bath and its fittings and services would cost considerably more than this sum, we do not quite see how the cost of the bathroom itself comes in. Possibly those who made the statement were thinking of the bathroom often provided in tropical countries, where a square rough brick apartment, with a cement floor with a rounded channel to drain the water away is provided.

In this stands a great circular earthenware vessel and the bather, standing on the floor, splashes himself with cold water taken out of the bowl till it is empty. This, though in its right place the best bath in the world, would hardly satisfy people here, but it is the only form of bath and bathroom which we believe could be provided at anything like a price of £10. We believe, if attempted, a supplementary estimate would be required, but we believe this to be a time-honoured custom in certain quarters!

Low Rents.

The climax of absurdity is surely reached in Southern Ireland, at Dunmarway, near Cork, where labourers' cottages have been erected by the local authority at a cost of £45,961. The Clerk of the Council stated that almost three years rent was due. The Council had decided to let the houses for a penny a week provided tenants kept the cottages in repair. No repairs had yet been carried out and some tenants had refused to pay the rent asked. As to the tenants' occupations it was stated that some were labourers and others gentlemen. Obviously, those in need of cheap accommodation should emigrate to the Irish Free State where, if they get accommodation on the above terms and at the same time get a good official salary, they should be comfortable, especially if they keep their own pigs and poultry. Life under these circumstances, if enlivened by a little salmon and trout fishing, would be very pleasant, and the whole episode may be described as an instance of delightful Irish humour.

The Shelton Hotel, New York.

In our last week's issue we were compelled by lack of space to hold over the illustrations of this notable building to which we referred in our leading article and which we accordingly give this week.

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THE RAPE OF THE SABINES

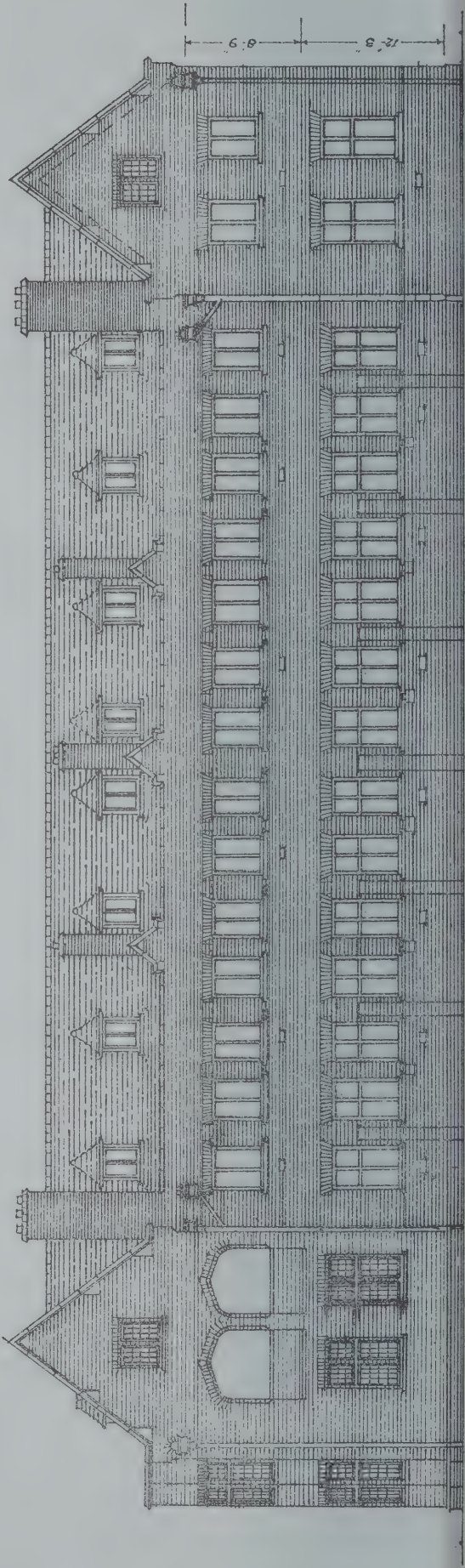
FROM A SCULPTURE BY ROMAIN

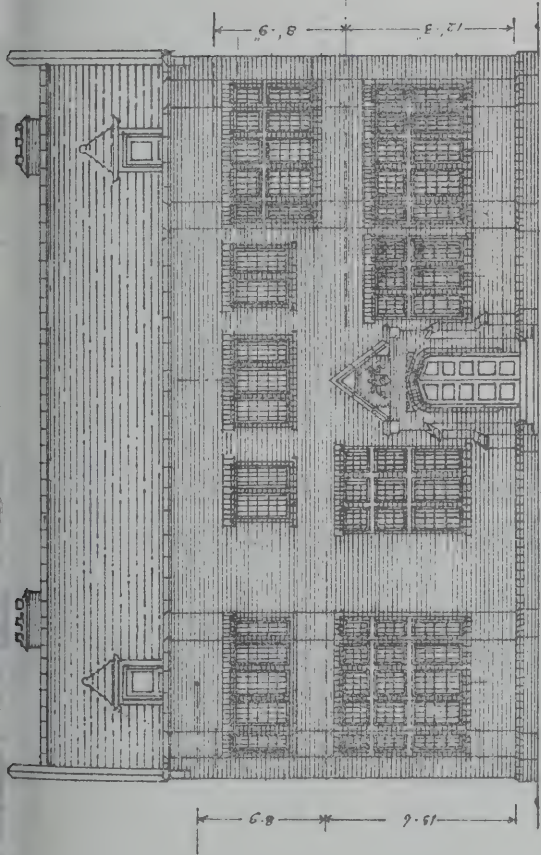
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THE ARCHITECT, SEPTEMBER 18th, 1925.

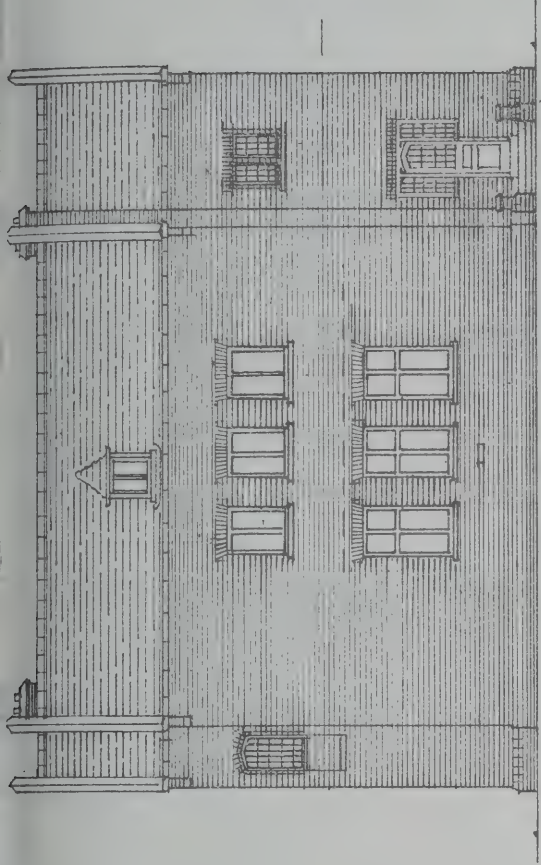


ELEVATION TO NORTH.

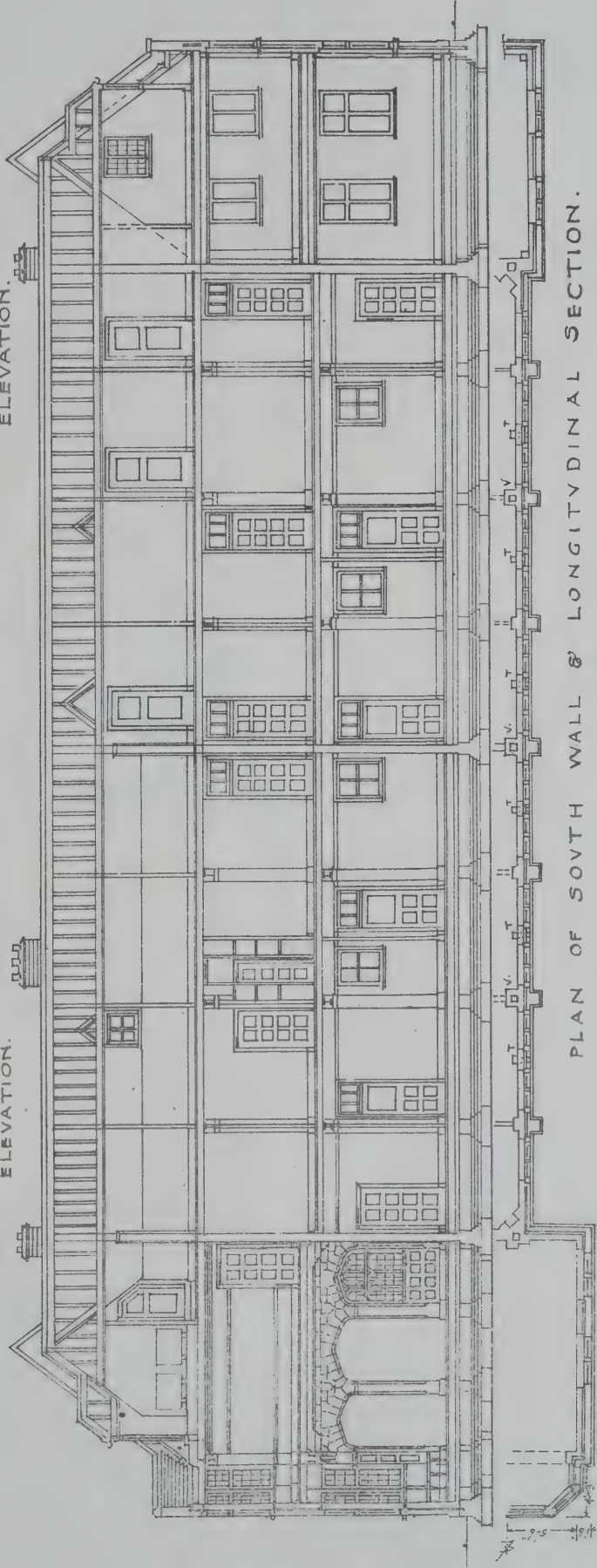




FRONT OR WEST
ELEVATION.



BACK OR EAST
ELEVATION.



PLAN OF SOUTH WALL & LONGITUDINAL SECTION.

BOYS SCHOOL, GRAND AVENUE, WORTHING.

ALBERT E. BULLOCK, ARCHITECT.

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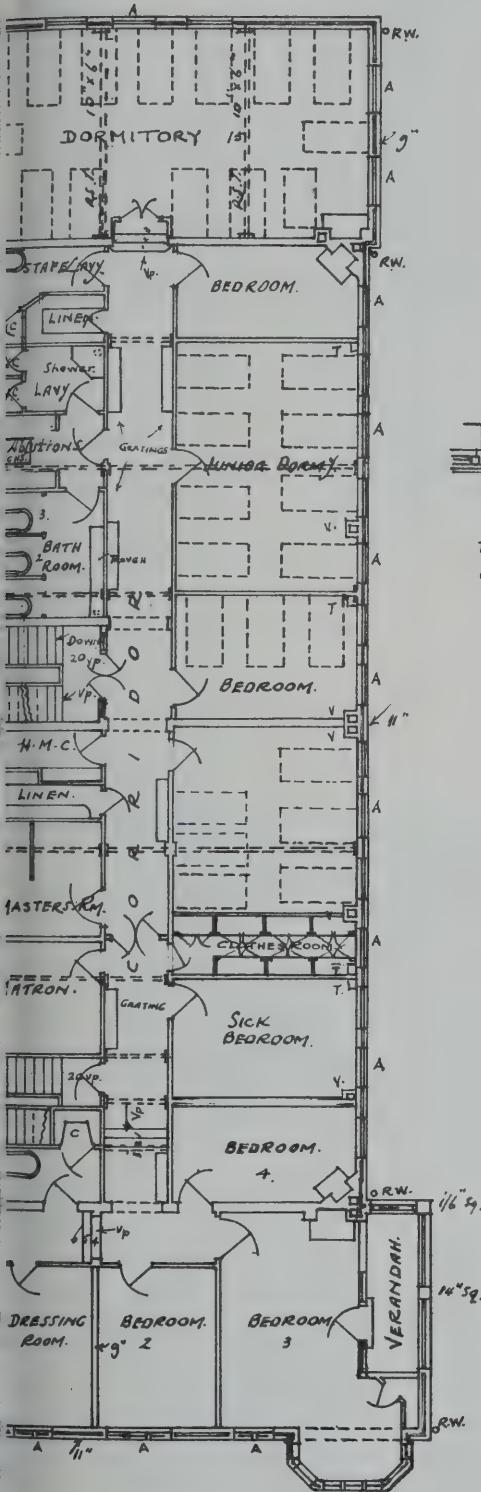
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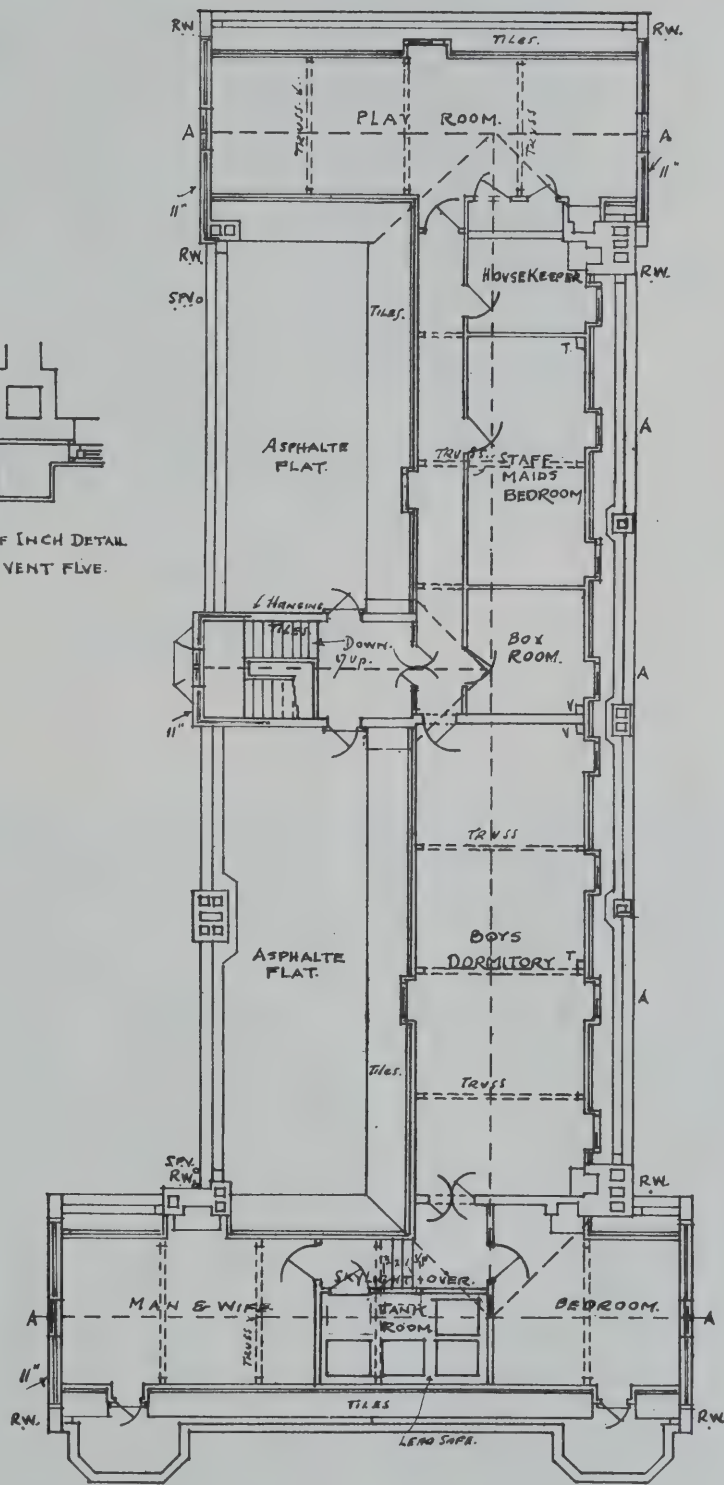
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ND AVENUE · WORTHING.

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HALF INCH DETAIL
OF VENT FLVE.



ATTIC FLOOR.

ALBERT E. BULLOCK
Architect & Surveyor
66 HIGH HOLBORN
2.4.25. W.C.I.

AVENUE, WORTHING.

ARCHITECT.

"PHOTO-LITHO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

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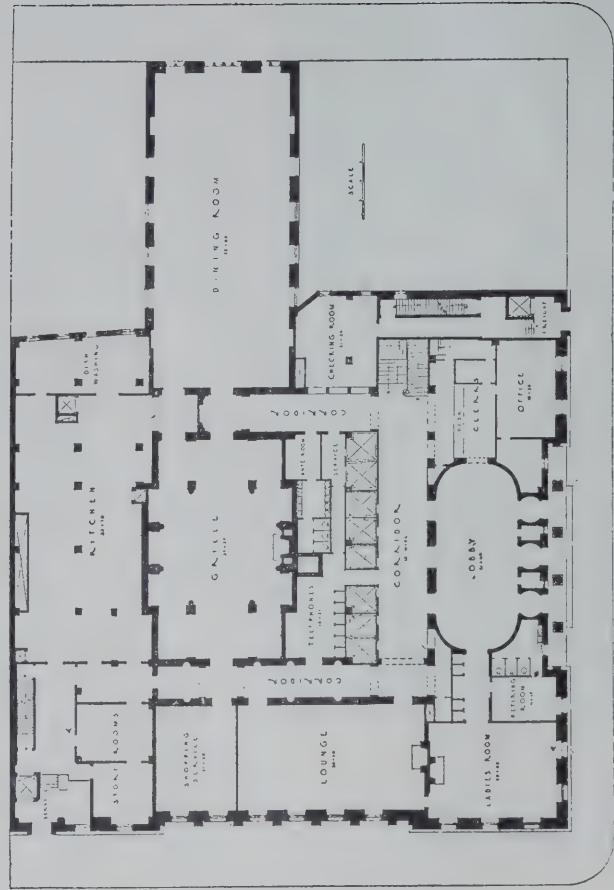


LOWER PORTION OF CORNER PAVILION.
THE SHELTON HOTEL, NEW YORK.
ARTHUR LOOMIS HARMON, Architect.

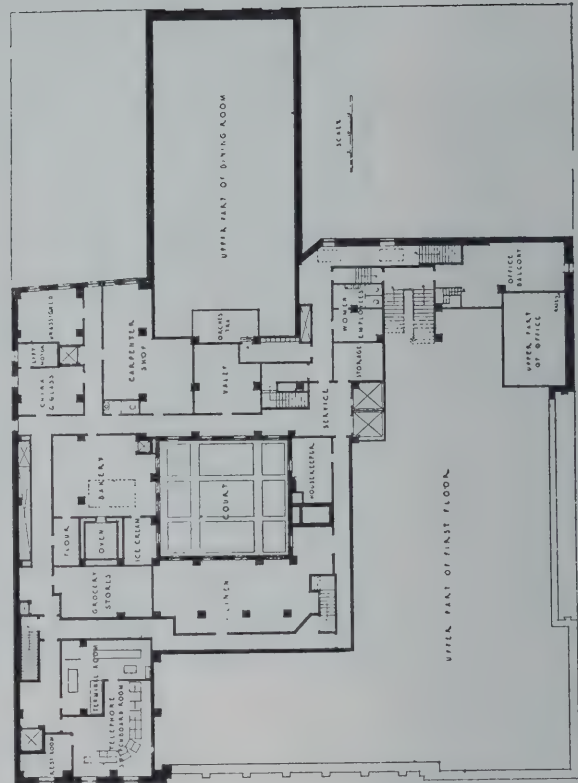


MAIN ENTRANCE.
THE SHELTON HOTEL, NEW YORK.
ARTHUR LOOMIS HARMON, Architect.

From "The Architectural Record."



First Floor Plan



MEZZANINE FLOOR PLAN.



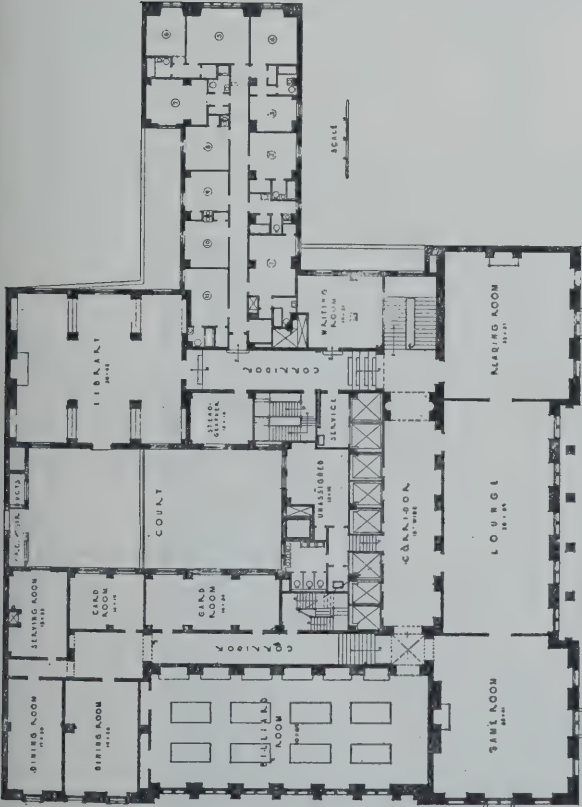
Sub-Basement Plan



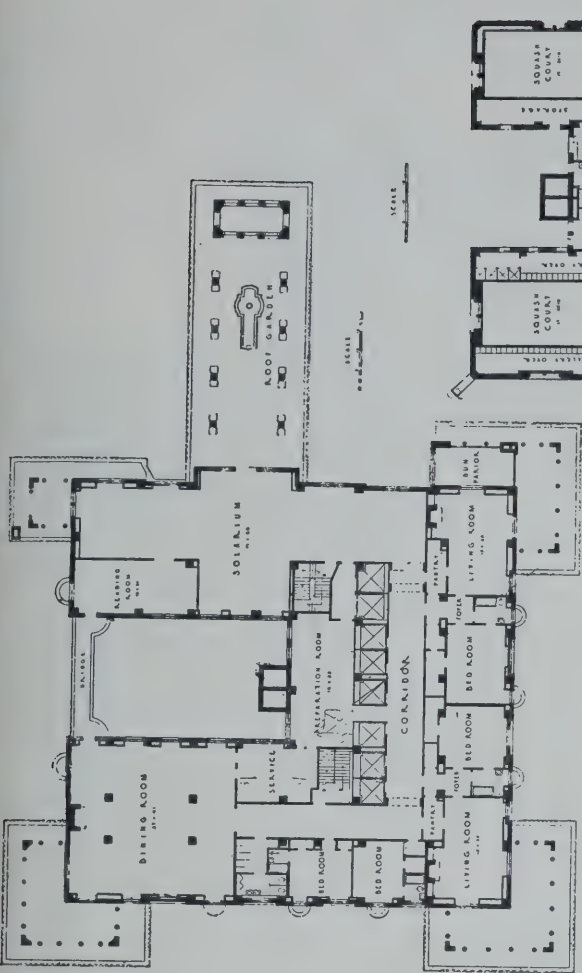
BASEMENT PLAN.

THE SHELTON HOTEL, NEW YORK. ARTHUR LOOMIS HARMON, Architect.

From "The Architectural Record."



Second Floor Plan



Fifteenth Floor Plan



Plan of Third to Fourteenth Floor, Inclusive.



Plan for Sixteenth to Twentieth Floor, Inclusive

THE SHELTON HOTEL, NEW YORK. ARTHUR LOOMIS HARMON, Architect.

From "The Architectural Record."

The Constructional Sculpture of Jacques Lipchitz

The Work of the young Polish Artist who is Searching for New Form.

By KINETON PARKES



BAS-RELIEF. JACQUES LIPCHITZ.



IMAGINATIVE FORM ILLUSTRATING CERTAIN ARCHITECTURAL POSSIBILITIES. JACQUES LIPCHITZ.

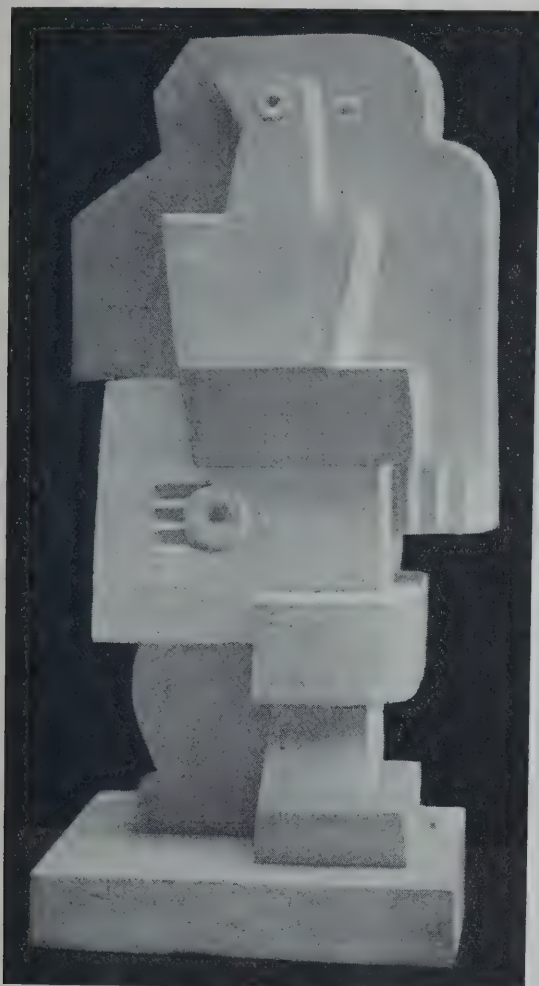
Jacques Lipchitz was born in 1891 at Drouskieniki, and when he was but eighteen years old he went to Paris. He is now a prominent figure in the life of the Montparnasse quarter where he lives—the quarter of the Bohemian cafés, the "Rotonde" and the "Dome," the latter the scene of many violences, extending even to physical assaults in the sacred cause of Art. It is here that new forms in painting and sculpture, in poetry and music are evolved, for to the avid side-whiskered the old forms make no appeal.

In this forceful and purposeful environment Lipchitz has made his name and established his plastic and glyptic

conducts his form-research. To others he leaves the accepted and ancient reproductions of animal, vegetable and human forms that have always been the subject-matter even of architectonic sculpture. To him the concatenation of multitudinous angles, curves and planes of an organic body seems unnecessary; he is content with simpler statements which may be regarded as geometrical, but actually are not, because geometry is a science, and his gathering of geometrical lines and shapes is an art expressing not only truth, but truth informed by emotion, which all good art should be.

A human bust or figure have an interest for Lipchitz, for in making his constructive sculptures he sees beneath the surfaces of such a synthesis which is not of the eye but of the brain; he sees the whole instead of the variable parts visible at the surface. The content of geometrical form is known even more surely by science than the content of physiological form, for geometry has no variations. The forms that Lipchitz desires to give expression to are therefore absolute.

He made in Spain a Toreador; he has made somewhat naturalistic busts of Jean Cocteau and others, and some statuettes which are partly cubical if not cubistic; and here

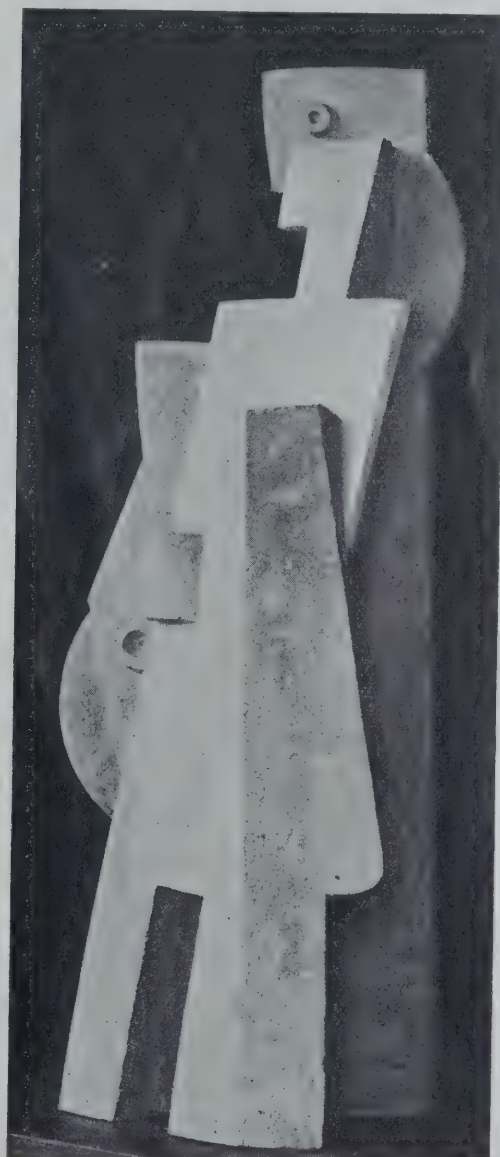


ORNAMENTAL FIGURE. JACQUES LIPCHITZ.

thesis. It has been written about by all the young and distinguished critics in all the young brilliant magazines: Maurice Raynal in *Action*; André Salmon in *Europe Nouvelle*; Paul Demée in *Esprit Nouveau*; André L'Hôte in the *Nouvelle Revue Française* and Waldeman George in *L'Amour de L'Art*. These have one and all extolled Lipchitz, his vision and his prophecy.

It has too long been assumed that sculpture is merely a medium for the reproduction of representational form. Sculpture is a matter of modelling and cutting, and, consequently, any kind of form chosen by a plastic or glyptic artist for the expression of his ideas is in essentials sculptural. What those ideas may be, whether concrete or abstract, does not affect the question, unless it is contended that no abstract idea at all can be represented concretely; but that is another question in which Lipchitz at any rate is not interested. His concern is emphatically one of form, and he lays no claim to the expression of the abstract. He believes that by building certain factors form may be achieved, and this is his constructive principle.

Architecture and sculpture are the two great plastic and glyptic arts, and it is hard to say where the one ends and the other begins. The border-line between the arts is always fascinating, and it is on this line that Lipchitz



COMPOUND FORM. JACQUES LIPCHITZ.

the seeker for the new is seen in the process of evolution. After these, or by their side, he evokes his vision of the forms prevalent in a mechanical age—that is the new expressive form he is in search of: that is what he finds on the border-line between architecture and sculpture; the region from which ideas are derived and to which per-



STATUE POSTULATING ORIGINAL PLASTIC FORM.
JACQUES LIPCHITZ.

formances respond; the nascent region from which, as in chemistry, new compounds are in process of formation.

The thesis revolutionises the conception of sculpture. This was based on knowledge of the forms of men and women, animals and trees and flowers, even when used decoratively. The new form is based on the new shapes now seen everywhere around, emanating from engineering sheds and resulting in a new conception of even natural figures. So mechanical is man now becoming that it is not amiss that art should be able to penetrate beyond a mere veil of cuticle and muscle for the production of an outer form which will express the mechanisation of the anatomy within.

What is felt is of more importance to the modern artist than what is seen, and it is his task—no easy one—to produce a visible exposition of what he feels. His task is the more difficult in that his vision is in advance of that of the people by whom it will be seen. He has to prepare for them the elements; lead them to see as he sees by gradual steps from what they know to what he knows and desires to have recognised. There is another border-line here—that between the known and the unknown, and it is this area of thought expressed in that other area of construction to which I have referred that occupies Jacques Lipchitz and the other explorers in the arts.

That he chooses sculpture for his medium is because the ideas he has to promulgate take plastic or glyptic form: he models them or carves them as he feels they demand. It must not be objected that his ideal forms are not sculp-

tural because they are not naturalistically recognisable. It is only necessary to refer to his decorative pieces to be assured that they are art; that they are sculpture, for to repeat, sculpture is any work of art which is moulded or carved, whether naturalistic or geometrically ornamental.

Correspondence.

Bungalows and Small Country Houses.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I am visiting England after an absence of many years in which I have been practising as an architect in California. What has interested me has been the amazing improvements which have taken place in the production of your architectural papers and most notably in that of *THE ARCHITECT*, which, to my mind, though not the largest, is the most interesting and useful of them all. I have also seen where I have been staying a number of your exceedingly attractive and very useful book on *Bungalows and Small Country Houses*, which contains a most useful selection of well-designed small houses. Acting for a friend of mine, a bookseller in San Francisco, and knowing his appreciation of such works, I will ask you to send him 50 copies on the usual trade terms, and shall be glad to pay for them on his behalf. I enclose my card.—Yours, etc.,

AN ARCHITECT.

The Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition.

The above exhibition closes tomorrow, September 19, and it has realised many expectations. On September 8, the Birmingham Association of Building Trade Employers held a conference. The Birmingham and District Master House Painters' Association met in conference on the 9th. On the 16th, the Birmingham and District House Builders' Association had a meeting in the conference hall, and yesterday, the 17th, the Midland Federation of Building Trades Employers brought the conference programme to a successful close.

There can be no doubt about the useful purposes that are served by exhibitions of this character.

They afford exceptionally fine opportunities for those connected with the industry to become acquainted with inventors, manufacturers and fellow workers. The educational value, though not always apparent on the surface, is none the less of a deep and lasting character. Men who have possibly been so engrossed in their own immediate interests have been able to realise that a vast community is constantly engaged in the advancement and improvement of the whole industry.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1875.

ARCHÆOLOGY IN OXFORD STREET.

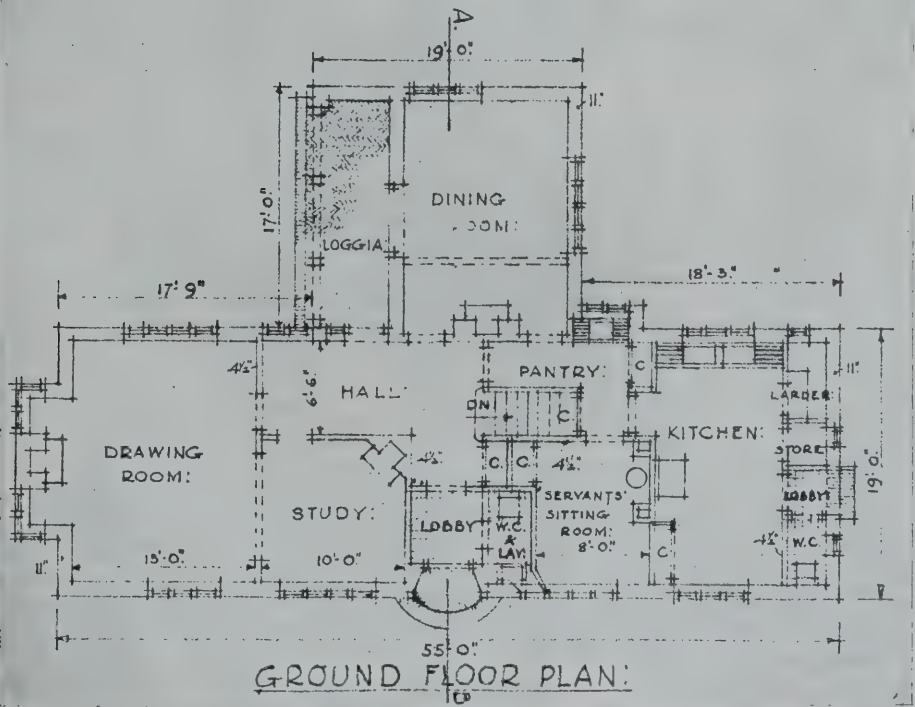
The officials of the Marylebone Vestry, who recently discovered the existence of a large subterranean building deep down in the roadway of Oxford Street, near to Stratford Place, supposed to be the ruins of the basement of the Lord Mayor's banqueting house, have now made another discovery in the same street. The Vestry have, at the request of the inhabitants, determined to lay down a noiseless pavement in Oxford Street in lieu of the present granite cubes, and before the work was begun orders were issued to the gas and water companies to at once carry out any repairs in contemplation. The Chartered Gas Company, in carrying out their repairs, came near to two much worn iron flaps close to the curb by North Audley Street. The curiosity of the workmen was aroused as to where the opening might lead to, whereupon the men plied their pickaxes, and, after some difficulty, succeeded in raising the flaps, when they discovered some brick steps, sixteen in number, leading to a subterranean chamber. On descending, they entered a room of considerable size, measuring 11 feet 2 inches long, by 9 feet 2 inches wide, and nearly 9 feet high. The roof, which is arched, is of stone, and with a few exceptions is in fair repair. The walls to the height of about 5 feet are built of small red brick, such as was used by the Romans, in which are eight chamfered Gothic arches, with stone panels, as though originally used as windows for obtaining light. The upper part of the wall is of more recent date, and from all appearances encloses other apartments than the one found. In the four corners of the chamber there is a recess with an arched roof, extending with a bend as far as the arm can reach. On the top of the red brick wall is a stone cornice, on which is inscribed some writing in rude old English, but which cannot be deciphered on account of age and dirt. In the middle of the chamber is a sort of pool or bath built about 6 feet deep, and at present contains about 3 feet 6 inches of water, which is tolerably clear and fresh.



NORTH ELEVATION:



SOUTH ELEVATION:

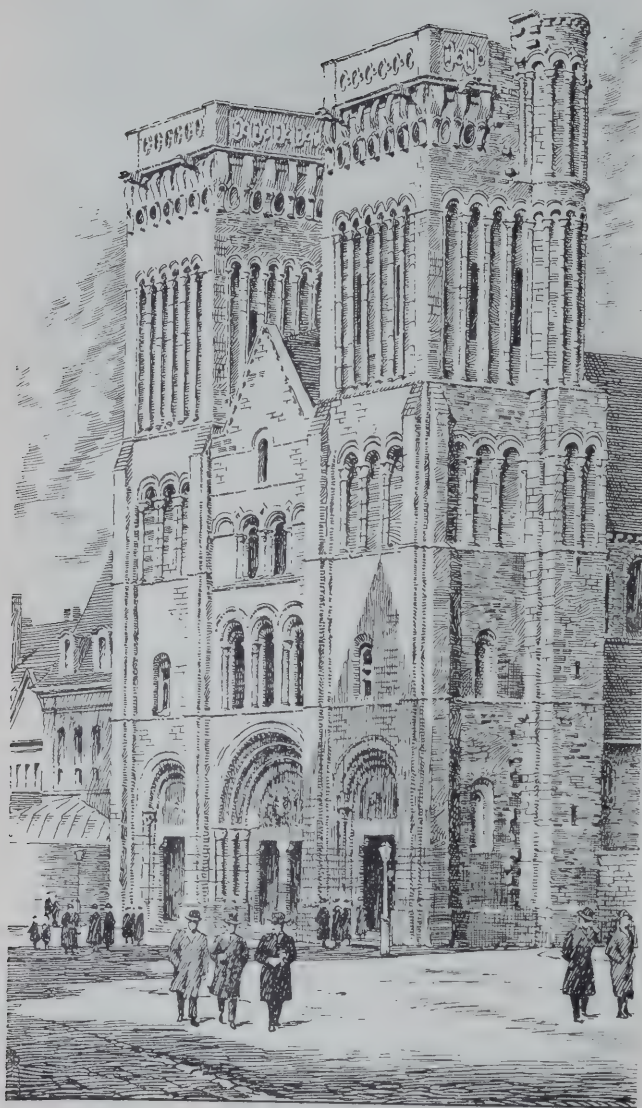


GROUND FLOOR PLAN:

NEW HOUSES, EPSOM LANE, WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, SURREY. L. S. CROSBIE, Architect.

The City of the Conqueror.

By P. M. Andrews, A.R.I.B.A.



ABBAYE AUX DAMES.

The proximity of Normandy to the shores of England makes it a favourite region for a short holiday. Tourists stream out in their thousands at the popular festivals, and the number and noisiness of the English and American visitors in the hotels greatly exceed the French.

It is possible to reach Caen now by steamer direct from Southampton and thus avoid the local French service from Havre; and this will be appreciated by those whose time is limited and whose main desire is to see the Conqueror's city and the beginnings of Norman architecture. The ancient paddle steamer that forms the chief link with the right bank of the Seine is a picturesque survival, but is easily influenced by the waves and during some 20 miles of open sea its discomfort can be very considerable. It is, therefore, with some relief that Ouistreham at the mouth of the Orne is reached, and the last seven miles up to Caen is traversed in dignified calm.

The view of the town from the river is disappointing. The continuous rows of black poplars along the banks screen the view of the Abbaye aux Dames, which is the principal object to be seen, and all the middle distance is filled with dock offices and warehouses and the usual untidy litter that a seaport entails. The town itself is one that does not strike the imagination at once with that delight that is expected from its romantic associations. Its streets are narrow, its cafés few, and its patisseries almost non-existent. A French town without cafés would indeed be a dull place, and though, of course, the thing is fortunately impossible, yet the attraction of a town to English people is very largely due to the cafés, or rather

the width in front of them. In this respect Caen fails. Owing to the narrowness of the streets the tables are nearly all indoors, which immediately deprives the experience of sitting at them of its novelty, and brings the place down to the level of a beer house. The hotels are comfortable, and are rapidly conforming to American standards, though fortunately not in the way of dollars.

The low rate of exchange is benefiting France in one way. The visitors, mostly English and American, are not only bringing money into the country, but are teaching the inhabitants the value and necessity of modern sanitation. The old complaints as to the primitiveness of even the big hotels, in this respect, can no longer be levelled, and now that the French see that tourists insist on better things and that it pays them to supply their demands, the improvements will probably increase, until even America is left behind. It is always comforting to stay in a French town with Americans. Pronunciation seems to be one of the few things they cannot master, and there is always satisfaction in having one's faltering sentences preceded by some blatant request asking the distance from "Cayenne to Ruin."

However disappointing Caen may appear at first sight, the impression is soon dispelled. The number and beauty of its churches, the magnificence of its palaces, and the charm of its timbered houses go to make this town one of the most interesting in Northern France. Its early history is wrapt in mystery, and it was not until the Normans were firmly established in Neustria and were acknowledged as the actual possessors of the soil that Caen becomes known, and known as a capital city.

The Normans were great imitators, with a genius for absorbing the manners and culture of the country of their adoption. They came as barbarous pirates of the same breed that ravaged the shores of Britain. They sailed up the Seine, slaying, burning and harrying the country for miles around. But they came to stop. They adopted Christianity but relapsed back into paganism, and it was not until 961 that Richard became a Christian permanently, and the monasteries of St. Michael and Fecamp were founded. During the next century zeal for religion vied with enthusiasm for learning, and Bec, Fecamp and Jumièges rivalled Cluny.

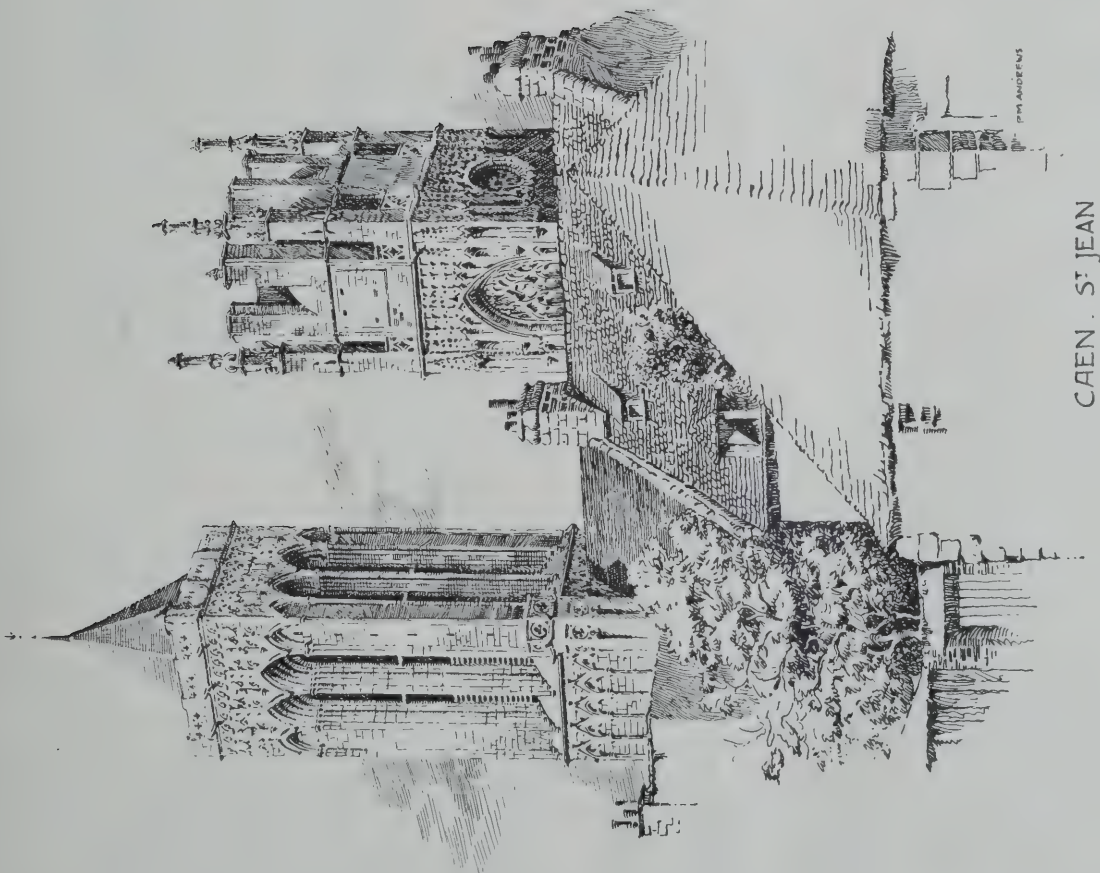
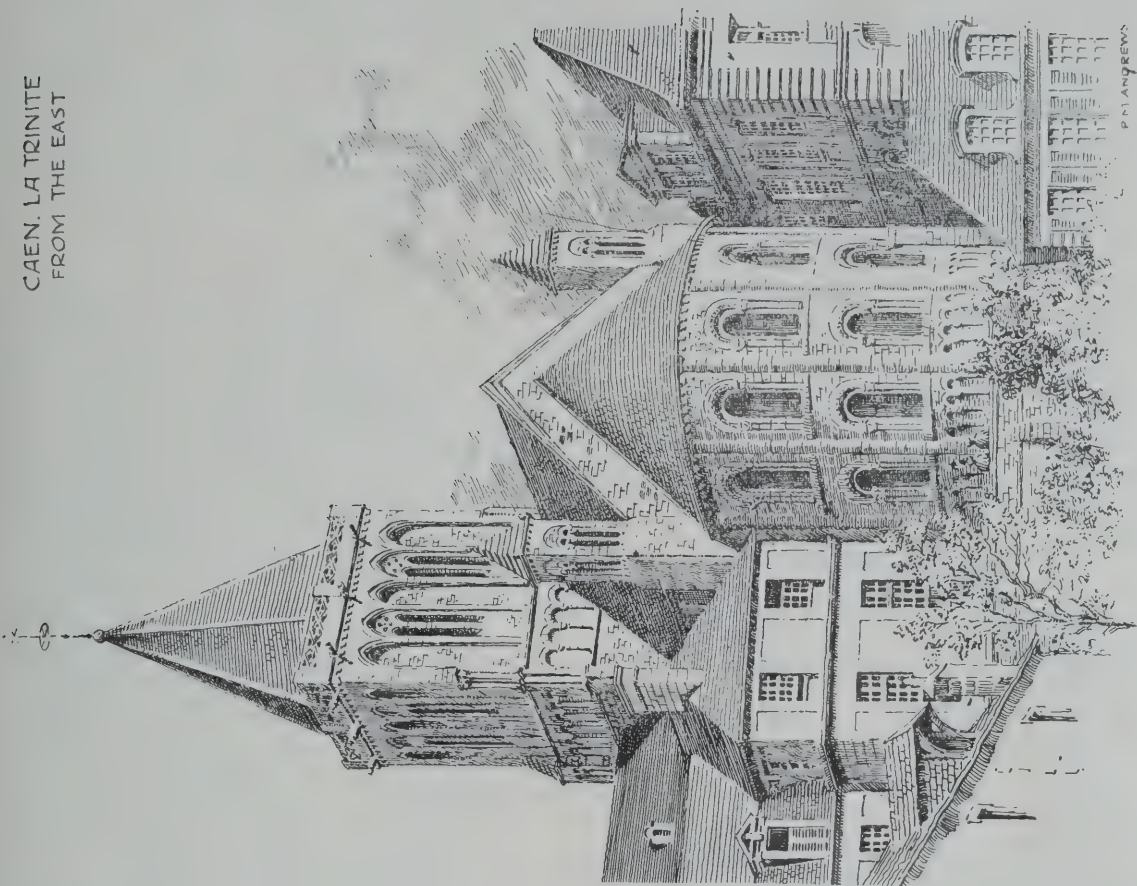
In building, nothing, except the Roman fragments at Lillebonne, remain that is previous to the Norman settlement. They adopted the Carolingian style at first, but finding this too cramped and elementary for their genius they looked further afield and borrowed what was vital from Lombardy.

The influence of Lanfranc the Lombard was as great in architecture as later in politics. The peculiar style of Romanesque known as Norman was a mixture of Carolingian tradition and Lombardic construction, together with certain original elements that are purely Norman. By the time William reached mature years—he was only ten when the duchy was bequeathed to him—the Normans were the most powerful race in Europe. They refused to recognise the papal claims to temporal jurisdiction, and the right of selecting abbots and bishops was vested in the Duke.

The reign of Duke William was the culminating period of Norman dominance. After his death the divisions among his heirs and the counter attractions of the English kingdom reduced the country to chaotic unsettlement, and it never regained the ascendancy. Early in the thirteenth century it was conquered by the French king and united to France in 1203. The fortunes of the Normans became bound up with England, and their history was continued there, until in course of time they were absorbed by the people they had conquered, and as a separate entity they ceased to exist.

William, commonly known as the Conqueror, though to his contemporaries as the Bastard, was the son of Robert and Arlette, daughter of the tanner of Falaise. The

CAEN. LA TRINITE
FROM THE EAST



CAEN. ST JEAN

THE CITY OF THE CONQUEROR. P. M. ANDREWS, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.



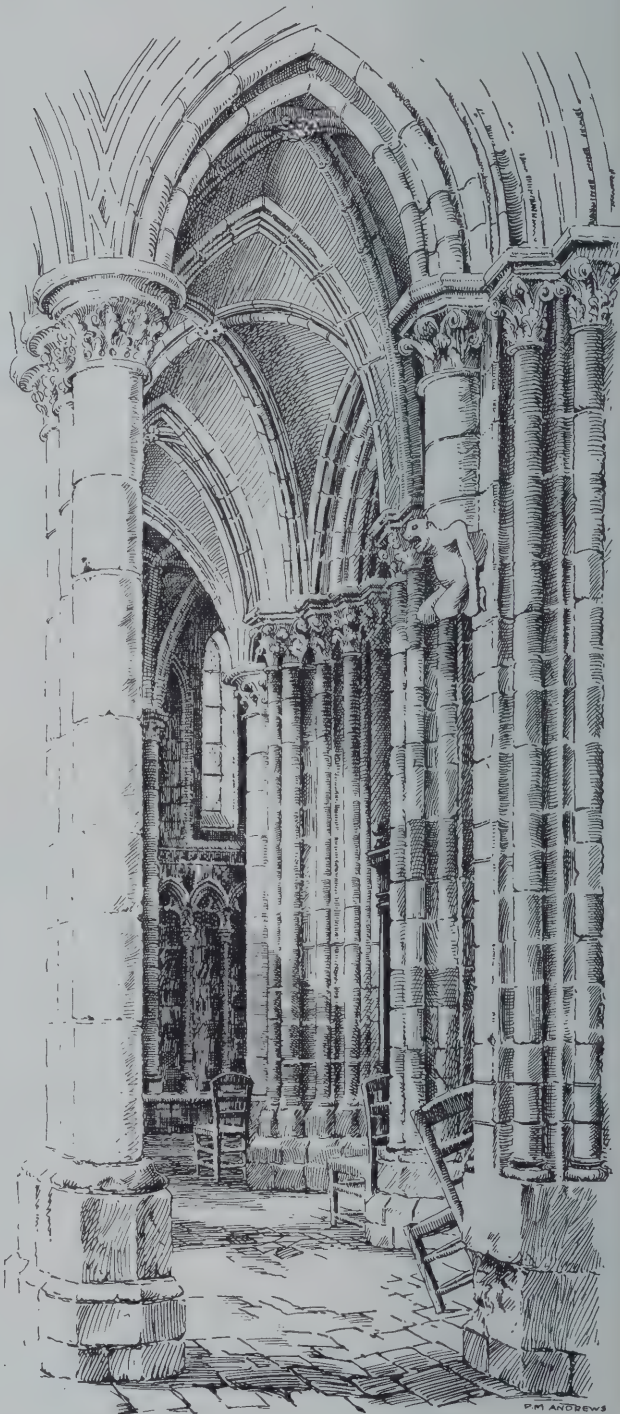
CAEN HOTEL D'ESCOVILLE 1538

stigma of his birth in no way influenced his subjects. On only one occasion did his enemies throw it in his teeth, and even then it was more in reference to the lowly position of his grandfather than to his own illegitimacy. He was known throughout his dominions as the Bastard, and had heraldry been invented in his day he would have carried his *Baton Sinister* as proudly as some of our ducal houses carry them to-day.

His marriage with Matilda, daughter of the Count of Flanders, had a profound effect on architecture in general and on this town of Caen in particular. The lady of his choice was his distant cousin, and the proposed union incurred the displeasure of the church. It is a strange commentary on contemporary morals that the irregular union of his father passed unnoticed, whereas the marriage of remote kinsfolk produced such agitation. However, Lanfranc, the cunning priest of Bec, took upon himself the task of negotiator, and persuaded the Pope to give the pair his blessing, and by doing so ingratiated himself with the fierce and self-willed William. But the Church's ban could not be lifted without some outward show of acknowledgment, and Lanfranc saw to it that neither the Church nor himself should be the loser. Thus the two great abbeys for which Caen is famous came into existence, the Abbaye aux Dames at one end of the town and the Abbaye aux Hommes at the other, and of which Lanfranc became the first abbot. These churches, though considerably altered, still stand substantially as when they were first erected, and appear as great sentinels guarding either end of the ancient city.

The Abbaye aux Dames, or La Trinité, was Matilda's contribution. Very little of the original church remains. It was begun in 1062 and consecrated ten years later. It is supposed that there was an older structure on the site which was incorporated, but this is doubtful. The only parts of Matilda's church remaining to-day are the crypt, the aisle walls, and the lower part of the towers. The church mainly dates from 1140, when the nave was entirely rebuilt and the western façade added. The nave was

vaulted at the same time, and though about five years later than the Abbaye aux Hommes, the builders seem to have reverted to a more archaic type. The vault is sex-partite, but if the transverse ribs be removed it would become quadri-partite. The transverse rib was added to ensure stability of the large cross vault, and consists of a vertical wall built upon the rib and so supports the crown of the longitudinal arch. It really resolves itself into permanent stone centering, and its effect is not pleasing. The sudden change from the curved surface to the flat wall is very



NORREY. CHOIR AMBULATORY

abrupt, and the dark shadow cast interferes unpleasantly with the appearance of upward growth that vaulting should possess.

The great Norman west facade, so well known from illustrations, is unrivalled in restrained grandeur. The twin towers attain a dignity and massiveness at once representative of the style, rude and rugged in execution, yet with a certain grace that even the incongruous 18th century parapets cannot wholly destroy, and the space about the west end being wide and open allows of this front being seen to its best advantage.

The central tower which forms such a fine feature in this group of buildings as seen from the lower levels

towards the east, dates from the 13th century. The abbey buildings which have all been rebuilt in the 18th century are now known as the Hotel Dieu and are used as an almshouse.

Matilda died in 1083 and was buried in the choir where her tomb may still be seen. Her epitaph which is still preserved in the abbey describes her as "a consoler of the needy, a lover of piety, a woman who having lavished her treasures in good works was poor to herself, but rich to the unfortunate. Thus she sought the fellowship of eternal life on the 2nd day of November, 1083." Apparently there was rather more truth in this eulogy than is usual in such cases.

William's gift to the Church was the Abbaye aux Hommes or St. Estèphe. Here the guide book tells us that we see masculine strength as contrasted with the feminine grace of the women's church. The difference is quite imaginary. Both churches are similar, though the Conqueror's church has rather more successful proportions than the other.

The triforium is more clearly defined, having large semi-circular arches corresponding to the nave arcade; in fact, it differs somewhat from other French work in that the heights of arcade and triforium are nearly equal, and is evidence of its Lombardic connection. The vaulting, though actually earlier in date than La Trinité, is the more mature in type. It is sex-partite as before, but the cross arches carry vaults that die out on their fellows and the abrupt spandril shaped shadows are avoided. It is a very noble interior and modern accretions, garish figures and the usual gaudy colouring that seems inseparable from churches abroad are largely absent. The harmonious colour of the cream coloured stone, the plain vaulting springing from piers that run through triforium and arcade, the deeply recessed triforium gallery all combine in producing one of the grandest Norman interiors that has ever been completed.

The form of abutment that was contrived to overcome the thrust of the nave vault is interesting. It consists of a quadrant vault running the full length of the triforium carrying the thrust to the outer walls. This is unscientific, as the thrust only comes on the pier and the resistance to this thrust formed by the half barrel acts between the piers in a contrary direction, tending to push the triforium arches into the church. The danger was soon apprehended and the intermediate parts of the barrel between the piers were cut away, thus leaving isolated half arches at each point of pressure. This was the germ of the flying buttress and it was not long before it emerged above the triforium roof and developed later into those startling creations of the succeeding periods.

The vaulting was not completed when the main fabric was built (1064-1077). The roof was originally of wood, as at Ely and Peterborough. At some later time, probably about 1135, the shafts were cut down to the level of the clerestory string course and the present capitals added, the vault was completed and the counter-vault thrown across the triforium. The choir was also reconstructed, and here again history is silent, but it must probably have been done in the first quarter of the 13th century. The chevet, with its radiating chapels and fine internal piers, is one of the glories of the church and it is a pity that no satisfactory view of it can be obtained from the outside.

The three lower stages of the west front are part of William's original church and are remarkable for their simplicity and orderly arrangement. The three storeyed towers are later and more ornate and the whole is crowned by the twin 13th century spires, both different in design, that soar above the roofs of the city and form one of its most striking features; but here again the surrounding houses hem the building in and render an appreciation of their fine proportions impossible.

The tomb of the Conqueror is marked by a marble slab in the choir, but the body has been removed long since. He was injured by a fall from his horse during the sack of Mantes. He was carried to Rouen where he lingered for some days and died. His death was the snapping of the chain that held in check his turbulent followers. All his

servants and retainers had fled with what they could lay their hands on. His sons had previously departed to claim their share in the Kingdom and the Duchy, and the body was left unguarded and untended. At length some clergy placed it on a cart and had it conveyed to the port, from whence it was taken down the Seine and across the sea to Caen. A grave had been dug in the church of St. Stephen, but before the burial could be completed unseemly disturbances interrupted the solemn rites and finally, as the body was being lowered, it was found that the coffin was too small and in attempting to force it, it burst. The dreadful consequences quickly emptied the church and the clergy hurrying through the service fled in haste. The fear that the great Norman had inspired during his lifetime was dissipated by his death, his ruthlessness and stern unbending nature had left no room for the gentler emotions, and his dismal end was a gloomy commentary on the fierce acts of his career, so that in the words of Robert of Gloucester:

"There was in Kyng William's days warre and sorowe ynou.

So that muchdel of Engeland thoghte his lyf too long."

There are many other great churches in the city besides the two that have been described, but a number of them are desecrated or in ruins. St. Sauveur and St. Pierre, two of the finest, date from the early 14th century; both are similar and their spires are strikingly effective, that of St. Pierre being considered the finest in France. Unfortunately at the moment the whole of it is encased in scaffolding and the effect can only be partly judged from its smaller brother, St. Sauveur.

St. Jean was to have been crowned with a similar spire, but the foundations gave way and the tower leaned some feet out of the upright, so was never completed and remains so to this day. The central tower of 16th century date was also left incomplete and is of that peculiar style introduced into the Duchy by Hector Sohier. It is an early form of Renaissance and is somewhat akin to Francois Premier, but, though interesting in itself, when grafted on to the purer forms of the Gothic, as in the East Ends both of St. Pierre and St. Sauveur, it strikes a distressingly discordant note and the endless statuettes and meaningless pendentives utterly mar the interiors. Here in England we have one reason to be thankful for the Reformation, which brought church building to an end at the same time that Gothic art died, and allowed these buildings to come down to us without the accretions of foreign importations, beautiful in themselves, but entirely out of harmony when grafted on to the indigenous style.

About eight miles from Caen, on the road to Bayeux, is the church of Norrey. The village has decayed and is now a group of a few cottages and farms clustered round the splendid church. The nave is simple, aisleless, and of transitional form, but the choir is built on cathedral lines with the triple elevation of arcade, triforium and clerestory. An ambulatory of five bays and two radiating chapels, forming a kind of chevet, surrounding the choir. The whole is most richly carved with deep undercut mouldings, reminiscent of Early English work, and the caps are decorated with conventional foliage. There is a series of carvings, said to have come from an earlier church, round part of the ambulatory, representing the Massacre of the Innocents, and below is a recessed arcade with intersecting arches very like what was later carried out at Wells. The central tower is of the same design generally as those at Caen, and is of considerable height, but the original spire was struck by lightning and its place has been taken by one of wood and slates. The church is a very good example of early 13th century work and owing to its secluded position the details can be more easily studied than in the crowded city.

Mr. Delissa Joseph, F.R.I.B.A., is engaged upon making alterations at the L.C.C. Fire Brigade Station in Queen Victoria and Cannon Streets, so as to convert the upper floors into offices. C. P. Roberts & Co., Ltd., are the contractors; Waygood-Otis lifts are to be installed.

General News.

AMBERGATE.—It is proposed to erect a new Wesleyan church and schools at a cost of £3,000. The architects for the scheme are Messrs. Lambert & Trotter, of 28 Park Row, Nottingham, and the contracts have been let to Messrs. Harris & Hunt, of Marehay, near Derby.

ASHBORNE.—The Ashborne Urban District Council are proposing the erection of 22 houses, for their housing scheme, the plans having been prepared by Mr. D. Powell, surveyor to the Council, Ashborne. Tenders have been let as follows: Messrs. P. Birch & Sons, Ashborne, eight type "B" houses in pairs. Mr. G. Gaunt, Ashborne, eight type "A" houses in two blocks, and Mr. J. Ainsworth, Ashborne, of one pair type "B" houses and four type "A" houses.

AUDENSHAW.—Mr. Samuel Hadfield is to erect 15 houses and a shop in Droylsden Road, Audenshaw.

BARNLEY.—For the erection of additions to the Barnsley and District Holgate Grammar School—architect, Messrs. Dyson, Cawthorne & Co., Ltd. The contract has been secured by Mr. G. Millor, of Stanfoot.

BARNLEY.—The Ministry of Health have agreed to a site at Bunkers Hill for the erection of an abattoir.—A further hundred houses are to be subsidised.—A site in Hunningley Lane, Ardsley, is being acquired for a housing scheme.—The purchase of four additional housing sites at Mount Vernon, Carlton Lane, Pogmore and California Gardens is under consideration.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £14,157 for the erection of an elementary school at Wilthorpe.—Plans passed: new streets off Dodworth Road for Messrs. Hey & Pashley; 6 houses, Wakefield Road, for Mr. H. Snowdon; 8 houses, Wakefield Road, for Mr. D. R. Snowdon; shops and offices, Eldon Street, for Mr. B. Harral; offices, etc., Peel Street, for Yorkshire Mutual Trading Co.

BLACKPOOL.—It is proposed to erect a new church, on a site that has just been purchased at a cost of £2,000, at Marton. Canon Lupton, of St. Cuthberts has the matter in hand, and at the moment no architect has yet been appointed.

BLYTH.—The Corporation propose to proceed with the first section of the promenade extension scheme at a cost of £1,700.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Newsham Road, for Messrs. J. & W. Simpson; 5 houses, Hedley Avenue, for Messrs. T. S. Hedley & Sons.

BRADFORD.—The Corporation have decided to subsidise another thousand houses.—The Education Committee are purchasing the Clock House estate for £30,000.—Roof repairs are to be undertaken at the Thornbury car depot at a cost of £1,130.—The establishment of a central motor garage is under consideration, a committee having inspected similar depots at Halifax.—It is proposed to reconstruct the low level conduit from Barden to Gilstead at a cost of £10,000.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Westwood Avenue, for Messrs. Hutchinson and Scott.

BRENTFORD.—Refreshment rooms are to be provided at Boston Manor Park, at a cost of about £1,400.—The surveyor is to report on the cost of converting the Mansion House into living quarters and alternatively for a public hall.—Plans have been passed for 400 houses on a garden estate for Messrs. Douglas Smith & Barley, Ltd.

BUXTON.—Messrs. F. W. Woolworth & Co., Ltd. of Kingsway, London, have obtained part of premises known as the Shakespeare Hotel, Buxton, and they propose the erection of a large store. Plans are being prepared by their own architectural staff.

CREWE.—The Council are proposing the erection of 22 houses on their West End Garden Estate, and the plans have been prepared by the borough architect, Mr. E. G. Timbrell, M.I.S.E., etc. Tenders of Messrs. Fletcher & Sons, of Hightown, Crewe, have been accepted.

DONCASTER.—The U.D.C. of Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster, are inviting tenders for the erection of 46 houses in Princess Street, Woodlands. Plans by Mr. George Gledhill, Council Offices, Adwick-le-Street. No tenders have yet been accepted.

DONCASTER.—The Council approved of a scheme for the erection of a new mortuary to be erected near the Guildhall at a cost of £1,125.—A further step has been made with the new Doncaster Infirmary scheme, which is to cost £300,000. At a meeting of the Board Committee the whole of the plans, prepared by Messrs. Pite Son and Fairweather, were approved, and Mr. W. J. Faulkner, of Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, has been appointed quantity surveyor. Digging operations for the foundations will be started within the next few days.—The Council have in hand a proposal to remove the site of the market, and a scheme is being prepared.

DUNDEE.—Dundee Education Committee are to erect a school at the corner of Blackness Road and Glenagness Road.

EXETER.—It is proposed to erect the tower of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Exeter, and plans have been prepared by the architects, Messrs. Stokes & Drysdale. The tender has been let to Messrs. Steven & Co., of Exeter.

GLOSSOP.—The Watch Committee recommend the erection of 20 houses for the police.

HACKNEY.—Plans passed by Borough Council: additions, 69, Powerscroft Road, for Messrs. G. F. Smith & Co.; additions, 133 and 135 High Street, Homerton, for Mr. H. J. Ramus; building rear of 22 Mare Street, for Mr. S. Ansell; additions, Old Gravel Pit Hall, for Mr. M. Gardner; additions, Star Laundry, Anton Street, for Mr. C. Gordon-Smith; petrol station stores and garage, 271 Mare Street, for Messrs. F. and H. F. Higgs; additions, White Hart Hotel, Temple Mills, for Mr. S. A. Yeo; cinema theatre, corner of Clapton Common and Egerton Road, for Messrs. Griggs & Son; alterations at Westminster Bank, 20 Amhurst Road, for Mr. G. C. Monkton.

LONGTON.—Funds are being raised for the extensions to the Wesleyan church and schools, and plans have been prepared by Mr. Fred Howarth, architect, Lime Street, Preston.

MACCLESFIELD.—Messrs. J. J. Dunkerley & Sons, of Macclesfield, are proposing the erection of a new mill in Oxford Road, Macclesfield, and the plans are being prepared by Mr. S. Hudson, Harryfields, Broadbottom, near Manchester.—Messrs. G. N. Heath & Co., Ltd., are proposing the erection of a new mill, offices and warehouse, and the plans are being prepared by Messrs. the Exors. of John Clayton, Sunderland Street, Macclesfield.

MANCHESTER.—It is proposed by the Senate of the Manchester University additions to the library. The plan is by Professor A. C. Dickie, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., of the Manchester School of Architecture, and the contract has been secured by Messrs. G. Macfarelane & Son, Ltd., Chorlton-on-Medlock, at a cost of £6,000.

NORTHAMPTON.—The Corporation have decided to provide a new wooden floor at the town hall, at a cost of about £340, and tenders are to be invited.—Tenders are to be invited for a new lighting system at the town hall estimated to cost £500.—Plans passed: 7 houses, The Vale, for Messrs. Lack, Revitt & Robinson.

NORTHWICH.—It is proposed to restore the tower of the parish church and to repair the dilapidations to the Vicarage, and the tender of Mr. F. P. Oakley, of Seven Oaks, Cuddington, Northwich, for the repair of the tower has been accepted.

OLDHAM.—Mr. Howcroft has been appointed the architect in connection with the 30 houses the T.C. are to erect, and it was decided to proceed with the Greenfield portion of the scheme first.

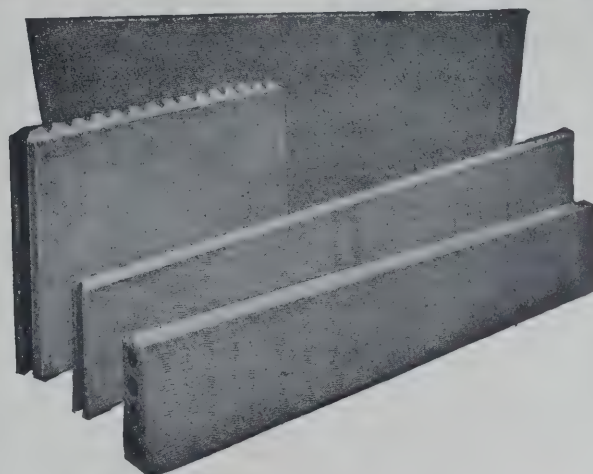
PETERBOROUGH.—The provision of a maternity and child welfare centre at Brook Street is under consideration.—The Monolithic Concrete Houses, Ltd., are to be invited to quote for the erection of houses which it is proposed to build at Elm Street and Park Street.

PLYMOUTH.—Alterations are to be undertaken at the central police station.—Fresh accommodation is to be provided for the weights and measures department of the Corporation.—The Mental Hospital Committee are negotiating with the Board of Control regarding additional accommodation.—The Higher Venn Estate Co. have prepared a lay out of new streets at Higher Venn estate.—Land at Shute Park estate has been acquired by the Education Committee for the erection of a school.—Sanction has been obtained to borrow £10,147 for land and buildings at Tamar Wharf for extensions to the wharf.—Plans passed: alterations, 13 Buckland Terrace, for Ancient Order of Foresters; 6 houses, Glenwood Road, for Messrs. Pearce Bros.; alterations, Cousins Hotel, George Street, for Mr. S. Roseman; alterations, 14-17 Manor Street, for Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd.; new shop premises, 20 Fore Street, for Plymouth Co-operative Society, Ltd.; re-building Standard Inn, Queen Street, for Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.; 21 houses, Watts Park Road, for Mr. Pearce; 8 houses, Ford Park Road, for Mr. J. H. Endean; 6 houses, Hillside Avenue, for Mr. W. Hill.

PRESTON.—The Governors of the Hutton Grammar School are proposing additions to the headmaster's house and additions and extensions to the schools have been prepared by the county architect, Mr. H. Littler, of Preston, and tenders as follows have been accepted: Messrs. T. B. Garnett & Sons, builders, Bow Lane, Preston, and Mr. T. Cottam, of Greenbank, Preston.

PRESTWOOD.—The Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee have under consideration proposals for extensions at Prestwood and Himley Sanatoria, involving the expenditure of many thousands of pounds.

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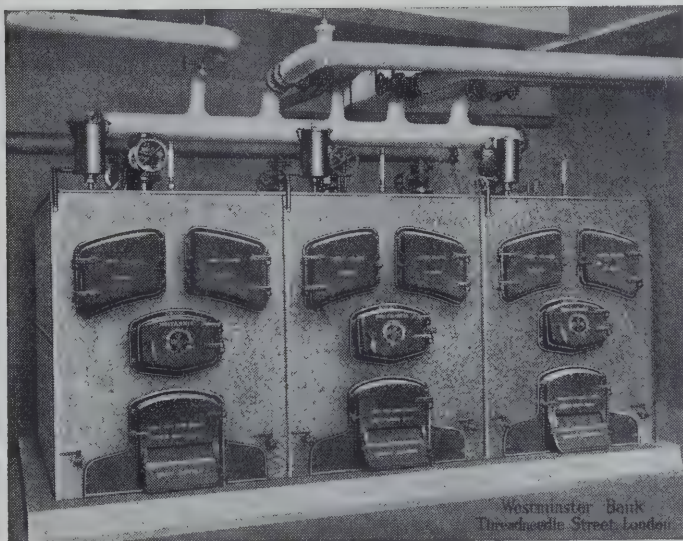
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SHEFFIELD.—The erection of a memorial hall is proposed by the parishioners, and the architect preparing the plans is Mr. H. Webster, of St. Marie's Chambers, Norfolk Row, Sheffield. The contract has been let to Messrs. G. Longden & Sons, of Sheffield.—It is proposed to erect a new diphtheria block for the Swallownest Hospital by the South Rotherham and Kiverton Park District Isolation Hospital Committee. Plans have been prepared by Mr. J. Haslam, of Ryton Chambers, Worksop, and the contract has been let to Mr. William Memmory.

SOUTH ELMSALL.—The Education Committee have selected a piece of land near Moorthorpe police station for the building of a new technical school.—The Parish Councils of South Elmsall and South Kirkby have purchased a piece of land adjacent to the Moorthorpe police station for the erection of a joint fire station.

ST. HELENS.—Alterations and additions are being proposed to the "Prince of Wales" Hotel, Ormskirk Street and Brook Street, St. Helens, by the Burtonwood Wood Brewery Co., Ltd., of Newton-le-Willows. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Williams & Co., of Bickerstaffe Chambers, 36 Hall Street, St. Helens, but no work has not yet been commenced.

STOCKSBRIDGE.—In connection with the proposed public swimming baths, the estimated cost of which was £12,000, the U.D.C. has decided to call in Mr. G. Wishart, of Swansea, the architect whose plan and design won the first prize of £25. Mr. Wishart is to be asked to go fully into the matter with a view to a scheme of a less elaborate matter being put forward. The Miners Welfare Committee have already promised £2,500 towards the project.

STOWMARKET.—East Suffolk Education Committee propose to enlarge the Stowmarket senior school to accommodate 80 more scholars at a cost of £1,500.

STRETFORD.—The Education Committee have submitted for approval of the Board of Education a scheme for an open air school, at Longford Park, at a cost of £8,470.—It has been decided to paint the exterior of 210 council houses.—The Council express the opinion that the most suitable site for the erection of new Council offices is the plot of land at the junction of Warwick and Talbot roads.—Messrs. Lucas have a scheme for extending their premises in Chester Road.—Plans passed: 18 houses, Byron Road and Shirley Avenue, for Messrs. G. H. Brown, 20 houses, Ryebank and Woodstock roads, for Mr. Whitelegge, brass foundry, Talbot Road, for Messrs. Parkinson and Cowan, Ltd.; living accommodation, sheds, Ashburton Road, for Callender's Cable and Construction Co., Ltd.; cooerage extension, Westinghouse Road, for Southern Oil Co., Ltd.

SWANSEA Education Committee have accepted the tender, £70,966 9s. 7d., of Messrs. Griffith Davies & Co., Paxton Yard, Swansea, for the erection of a secondary school for girls and improvements to the existing boys' school.

SWANSEA.—Tenders are shortly to be invited for the erection of a police station at Llansamlet.—Sanction has been given for a loan of £63,500 in connection with the Llansamlet sewage scheme.—Plans are being prepared for sewers at Treboeth where ten new streets are to be constructed on the Penlan estate for the erection of 600 houses.—The Corporation are to proceed with the scheme for refreshment rooms and drainage at Rotherslade Bay at a cost of about £10,000.—Tenders are shortly to be invited for the erection of an elementary school at Llansamlet.—The Education Committee are to acquire 12 acres at Town Hill for secondary school playing fields.—A further 100 houses are to be subsidised.—Plans passed: six houses off Bellevue Road, for Mr. C. M. Gustavus; six houses, St. Peter's Road, Newton, for Mr. E. H. Davies; additions, Cricketers' Hotel, King Edward Road, for Mrs. Thomas; additions, Jersey Arms, Neath Road, Hafod, for Swansea Old Brewery; additions, Tivoli Cinema, Carmarthen Road, for Mr. A. V. Larcombe; additions, Bovega Hotel, Castle Street, for Mr. D. J. Bassett; alterations, Railway Inn, Siloh Road, for Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, Ltd.; rebuilding premises, Park Street and Portland Street, for Mr. W. E. Rochester.

TOWYN.—Merioneth County Education Committee are to raise a loan of £4,500 for the purpose of providing additional accommodation at Towyn county school.

WAKEFIELD.—The Corporation have decided to erect ten houses on the Portobello estate for tenants displaced by improvement schemes.—As an experiment, steel and wood ceilings have been introduced in certain houses being built on the Lupset estate.—Negotiations are proceeding for a site for a hospital.—The city engineer is to prepare revised plans for extensions at the maternity home.—Plans passed: 7 houses, Belle Isle Crescent, for Yorkshire (West Riding) Electric Tramways Co., Ltd.; additions to brewery, Parliament Street, for Messrs. H. B. Clark & Co.; club room, Birch Street, for Messrs. J. Rhodes and Sons, Ltd.

WARRINGTON.—The Warrington Golf Club are proposing the erection of a new golf house, and the architect who is preparing the plans is Mr. Albert Warburton, of Bold Street, Warrington.

WARSOP.—Alterations are proposed at the "Prince of Wales" Hotel by the owners of the Staveley and District Public House Trust, Ltd., the architects being Messrs. Vallance & Westwick, of White Hart Chambers, Mansfield. The contract has been let to Messrs. A. Eastwood & Sons, of Warsop.

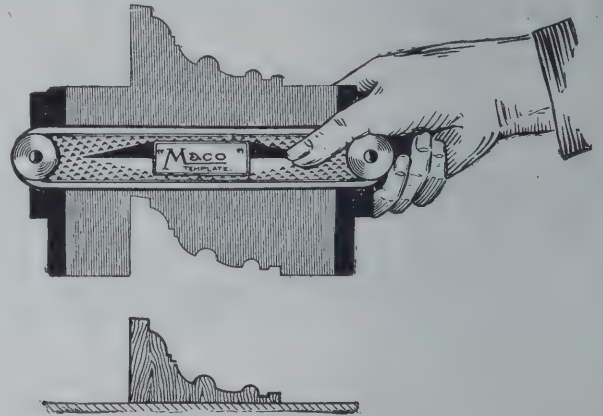
WEST AUCKLAND.—Durham County Education Committee are preparing plans for an elementary school at West Auckland.

WOMBWELL.—The Jump Miner's Welfare are proposing the erection of a pavilion, bowling greens, tennis courts in Cemetery Road, Jump. The architect for the scheme, which is to cost £1,900, is Mr. H. Everatt, of No. 93 Wombwell Lane, Wombwell, and it is proposed to erect the pavilion by direct labour, and the other works to be let out by contract.

YORK.—The York Corporation Library Committee propose a new library, the architects being Messrs. Brierley & Rutherford, of 13 Lindel, York, and the contract for £21,257, has been secured by Messrs. F. Shepherd & Son, Ltd.

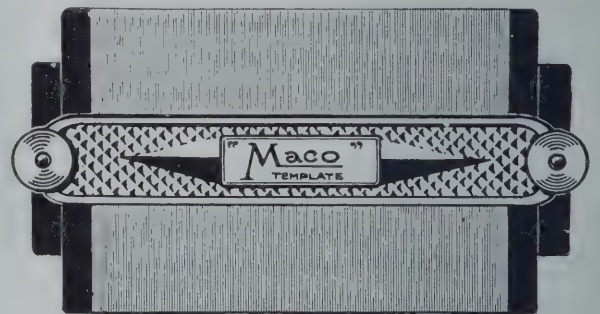
Trade Notes.

Opportunity and circumstances frequently prevent the architect from making a sketch of a moulding that has caught his fancy. The "Maco" Patent (Adjustable) template has been invented so as to enable craftsmen to obtain an exact representation of any moulding or part of a moulding that they



desire to possess. The two illustrations will greatly assist in explaining the invention. One point though should be emphasised, namely, that the two metal end pieces which hold the movable parts in position can be adjusted so as to permit the "Maco" to fit close up to any given object without any blind piece hindering its activity.

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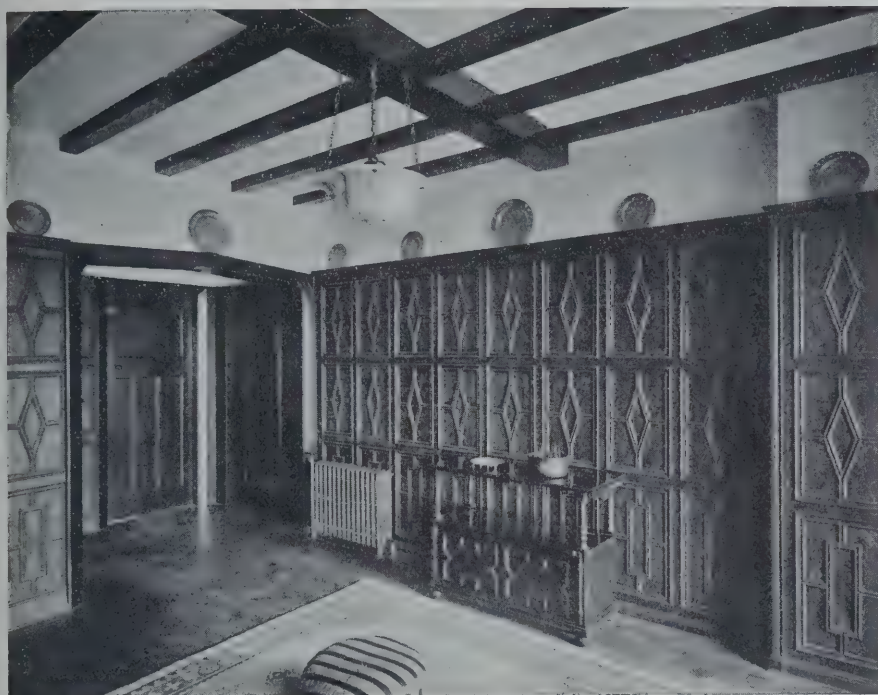


The thickness of each strip is .007 in.; thus great accuracy is ensured when using the "Maco" template.

Like all practical inventions, the simplicity of the "Maco" template attracts attention, and one is compelled to appreciate the vast possibilities and labour-saving qualities of the invention. The methods of the past depended for their quality on the skill of the craftsmen to sketch and measure correctly. The "Maco" template will reproduce the most subtle curves and intricate proportions with absolute fidelity.

The Windsor Brick & Tile Co., of Water Oakley Brick Farm, Windsor Lane, secured the order for the red facing bricks, and a large quantity of grey bricks for use in the 58 houses to be erected for the Windsor Corporation.

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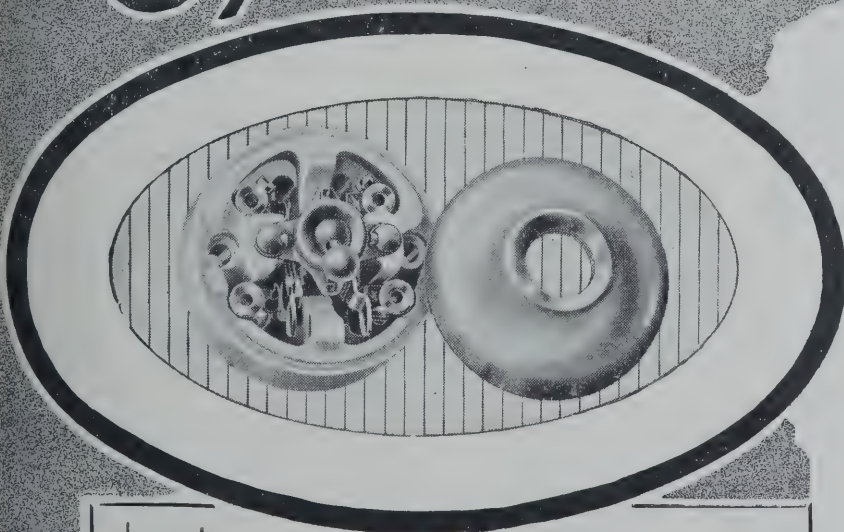


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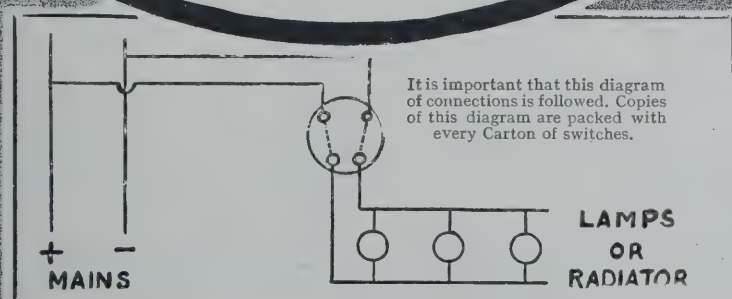
- (1) The fact that it is cheaper than a tumbler Switch.
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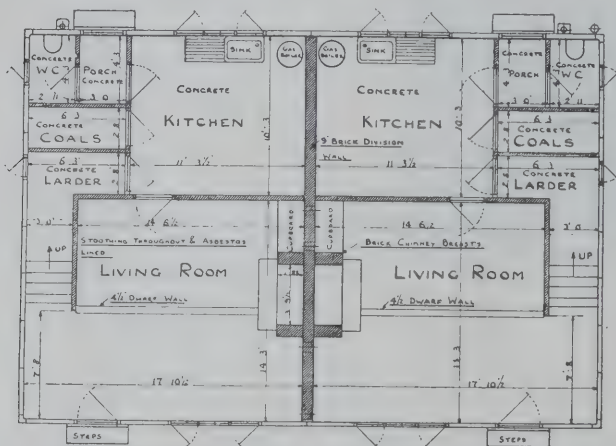
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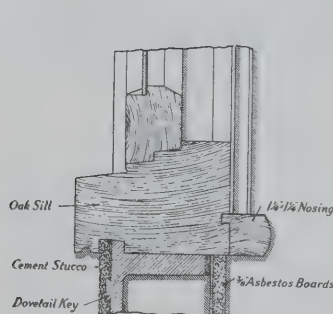
The Thorncliffe Type of Houses.



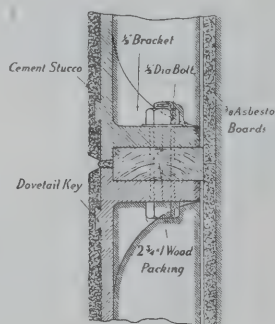
Messrs. Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., of the Thorncliffe Ironworks and Collieries, near Sheffield, have patented a type of iron house which possesses many advantages.



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— SECTION THRO WINDOW SILL —

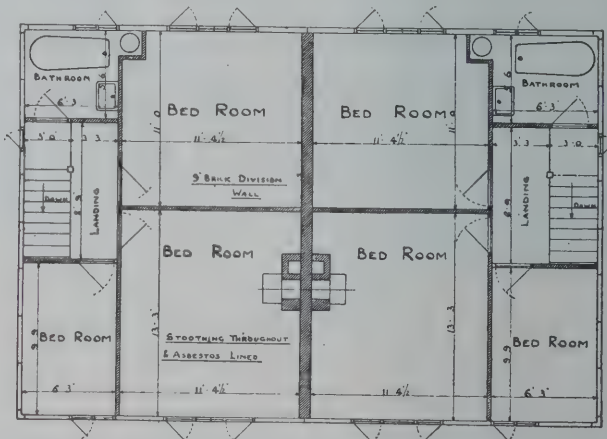


ORDINARY JOINT

The outer walls are constructed of standard cast iron plates which are roughcast before dispatch with a heavy layer of concrete of special composition keyed in place by dovetail

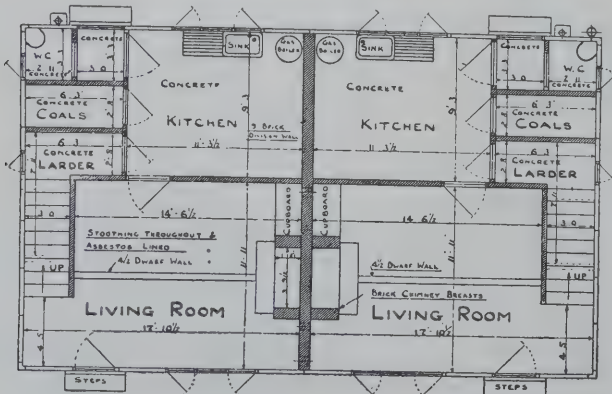
strips cast on to the plates. A patented method of jointing is employed between the flanges which renders the joints completely weathertight, providing a secure fastening for the strong asbestos cement lining. The inside of the plates are treated with a strong bitumastic solution. The division walls and interior work is carried out in the same manner as that employed in ordinary housing. The interior partitions are carried out with 4-inch by 2-in. framing covered with strong asbestos sheeting as before, the joints being filled in with cement to give the appearance of ordinary plaster by omitting the usual unsightly cover strip.

The roofs are constructed with 3-inch by 2-inch rafters, 9-inch by 1 1/2-inch hips, and 6-inch by 3-inch purlins, and are covered with Marseilles tiles well pointed inside and wired to laths every third course. Windows are wood casements bolted to the cast iron plates. Outer doors 2 inches thick, inner 1 1/2-inch four-panel. The floors of living rooms are formed with 4 1/2-inch by 2-inch wood joist covered with 1-inch by 5 1/2-inch red or white tongued and grooved flooring, bedrooms 6-inch by 2 1/2-inch flooring joists. The stoves and other fittings of good quality and subject to approval in each case.

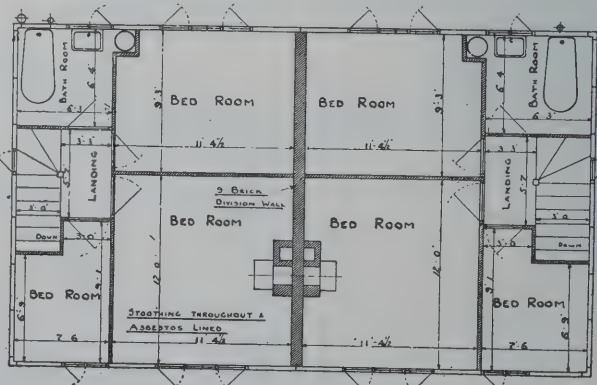


These houses, of which we illustrate two types, can be delivered from stock and erected up to the roof in thirty hours. They cost no more than brick, have the appearance of a brick house, do not require pointing or re-pointing, are absolutely weatherproof and vermin proof, and will employ in their manufacture large numbers of those engaged in the coal, iron and engineering industries as well as absorbing a large number of the unemployed.

The prices quoted for types of houses shown, while they would be about equal to those of brick buildings erected under fairly favourable conditions, would often prove less than would have to be expended on brick buildings under the unfavourable conditions which often prevail owing to shortages of essential labour and materials. We understand that Messrs. Newton, Chambers & Co. are receiving many orders for housing, and their system is one of the simplest and best of which we have had particulars.



PLANS TYPE D. £450. CONDITIONS AS IN TYPE C.



CONTENTS.

Laymen and the New Architecture	PAGE 215	The Problem of the Pediment	PAGE 223
An Unproclaimed Masterpiece	219	Book Notes	227
What is the Architect?	221	The Claims of Local Architects	228
Correspondence	222	General News	230

“Laymen and the New Architecture.”*

Mr. Manning Robertson has written an interesting and readable book under the title given above, though we do not agree with all his conclusions, and even dissent from the title he has chosen. In what respect can we claim that our modern buildings show any new architectural development? We may bridge over greater spans without support, we may introduce more window space than in the past, we may build higher than in past years, but none of these facts have served to create new architectural features or a new method of giving expression to older forms. We should have thought that “Laymen and Modern Architecture” would have been a more correct title.

Mr. Robertson suggests that Sir Walford Davies’ description of musical appeal as consisting of four concentric circles, each enveloping the inner one, can be fittingly applied to architecture. The smallest circle, representing primitive expression, the next circle the dramatic and emotional appeal which forms the art expression of the bulk of mankind, and is the basis of art which will satisfy those who are not intellectual. The third circle contains those works which have a distinct intellectual appeal, and may be said to include such design as that of eighteenth century Bath. The fourth circle would include those buildings in which either as the author says, art is discovered identified with religion, or as we understand him to mean, great qualities are evidenced which cannot be defined and which analysis cannot rightly weigh. Every works included in any of the outer circles may express qualities which are peculiar to the inner circles circumscribed, or may, on the other hand, exclude them. This we know to be in part true, especially with works belonging to the third or intellectual circle.

Four chapters deal with plan and elevation, proportion and grouping, materials, construction and texture and colour, which are clearly written descriptions of elementary principles meant for the untrained layman.

In discussing the teaching of architecture, the author is at one with us in thinking that little progress can be made until architecture forms a part of the ordinary school course. He would have the students’ attention first directed to facts about building materials, and their nature, followed up at a later and more advanced stage by instruction in the distinguishing features and styles of the various architectural periods, and some information about the men by whom, and the conditions under which, they were produced.

Any difficulty in getting teachers might readily be met by making use of the more advanced architectural students of neighbouring architectural schools as teachers. There are two difficulties we see in doing this. The first, that of fitting in an extra subject into the curriculum of a school, and the second, that of expense. Clearly something must be deducted before an addition can be made, but we should say this should be quite possible. It is questionable whether ele-

mentary science is likely to be as useful to the average boy as some knowledge of building and of architecture, and assuredly many receive musical training who are not likely to derive much benefit from it. Apart from this, a good deal might be effected by the inclusion of a certain amount of architectural teaching as illustrating both the subject of geometry and that of drawing. We believe that a beginning might be made in our public schools, and that similar instruction would be likely to become included in the curriculum of schools under the Education Department.

Mr. Manning Robertson is entirely right in his allusion to the contentment of the highly educated with an entire ignorance of any knowledge of architectural subjects, which is an unknown subject to many who would be shocked at ignorance of the classics or of English grammar.

It is not the “jerry builder” who is at fault, as the framers of our educational codes who have created conditions which have automatically produced the “jerry builder,” and also the public who, as a whole, are satisfied with his efforts. We might have a well-educated people with no knowledge of either Latin or Greek, but we cannot expect the architectural beauties of England to be either increased or preserved by those who are devoid of any knowledge of the elements of architecture and of design.

The author gives chapters on the various types of buildings and their modern examples of them in describing some of which, and notably Bush House, he is too kind and indiscriminating. We doubt whether our colleagues in America would like us to regard Bush House as an example of their best, we do not think it has in the words of Mr. Manning Robertson, been of “incalculable pioneer service to the Londoner.” We agree that the model submitted promised what if it had been well carried out would have been a fine group, the truth is that it has not been.

We live unquestionably in an age which is not encouraging to the progress of architectural development. The permanence attaching to the possession of land is not as great as it was in the past, when a majority of the population was “rooted to the soil.” The advent and development of motoring has enormously affected the building of houses and tended to decrease the funds formerly spent on them. The attitude of organised labour has both increased costs and checked production, nor can we feel altogether content with the result of the great commercial amalgamations which have replaced the more modest businesses of the past. If we look at any old prints of London streets, we shall acknowledge that they possess a sense of scale and homeliness which is now absent from our great thoroughfares. The development and spread of knowledge of the subject of town planning, the substitution of whole streets rather than of individual buildings as subjects for design can alone make up for what we have lost, the harmony of the effects of comparatively small individual owners living in an age when no building was conceived as

* “Laymen and the New Architecture.” By Manning Robertson, A.R.I.B.A., F.R.A.S. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, W. 12s. net.

an advertisement of its owner's business. Our modern architecture is bound to be the outcome of the endeavours of architects to express themselves under most difficult conditions and to make an appeal to an "unlettered" public which is in its turn, conscious of the difficulties of a most unsettled and uncertain

age, while our public bodies are weighed down with a load of responsibility, a large part of which should never have been thrust upon them by Parliament, while the expense of administering measures dealing with which places them in the position of perennial apologists.

Our Illustrations.

PROPOSED SCHEME FOR WELSH NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL, CARDIFF.

H. CHALTON BRADSHAW, Architect, AND GILBERT LEDWARD, Sculptor.

PLANS OF THE NEW BOLTON SCHOOL. C. T. ADSHEAD, Architect.

ELEVATIONS OF SHOPS AT OXTED, SURREY. E. W. MOUNTFORD AND PARTNERS, Architects.



SHOPS AT OXTED, SURREY. E. W. MOUNTFORD, A.R.I.B.A., & PARTNERS, Architects.

Bolton School.

We illustrate these schools, which were the outcome of an important competition and was won by Mr. C. T. Adshead, of Manchester, the assessor being Mr. Gass, of Bradshaw and Gass. The conditions emphasised the requirement that the schools should take the form of a traditional Elizabethan or Jacobean building and the accommodation to be provided for girls and boys was equal in extent. Each school is arranged round its own

quadrangle with a centre quadrangle between the two schools, on the further side of which is the chapel connected by covered ways to both schools.

Shops at Oxted, Surrey.

We illustrate some shops recently erected at Oxted, Surrey, which were designed by Messrs. E. W. Mountford & Partners, and have been carried out with half-timber framework in harmony with the local character of the district.

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R.A., 1925.

PROPOSED SCHEME FOR WELH

H. CHALTON BRADSHAW, ARCHT

EMBER 25th, 1925.



H. CHALTON BRADSHAW.

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INAL WAR MEMORIAL, CARDIFF.

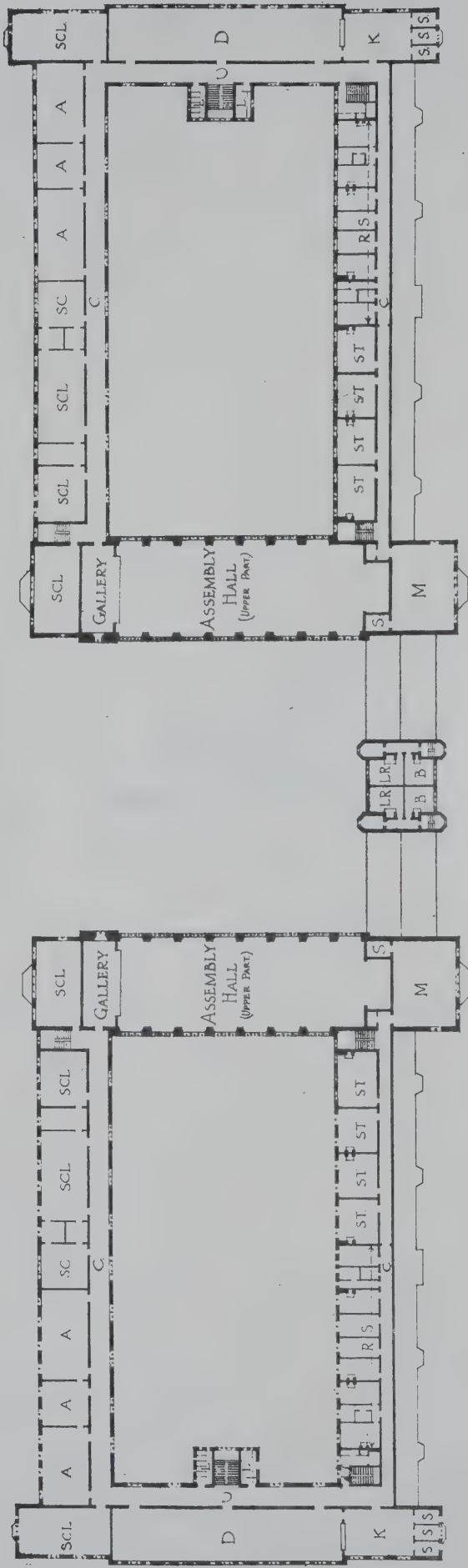
GILBERT LEDWARD, SCULPTOR.

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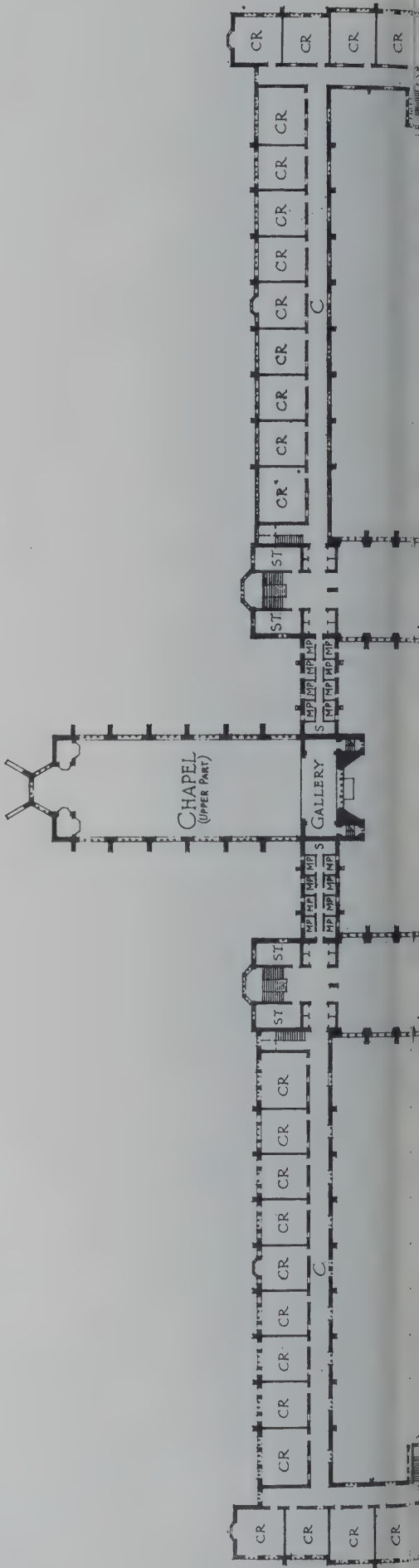
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THE ARCHITECT, SEPTEMBER 25th, 1925.

THE BOLTON SCHOOL



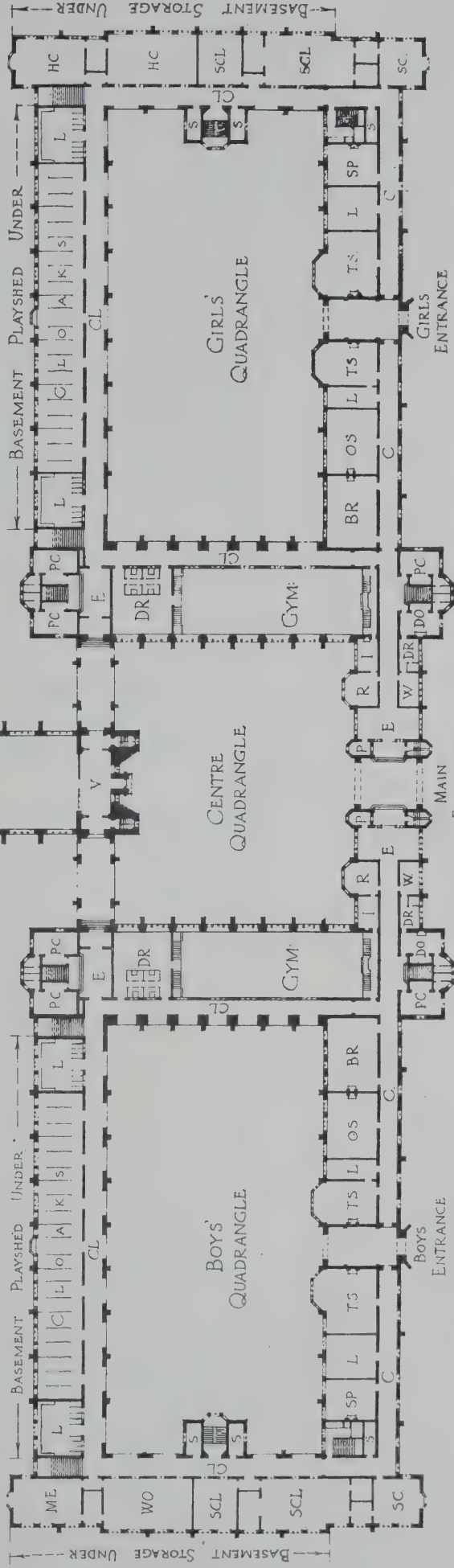
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



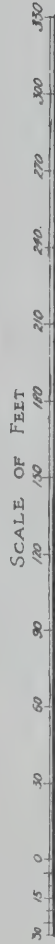


First Floor Plan

- | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------|-----|------------------------|----|----------------|----|-------------|
| A | ART | K | KITCHEN | SR | SERVICE | B | BEDROOM |
| D | DINING ROOM | M | MUSIC ROOM | RS | RESIDENT STAFF | LR | LIVING ROOM |
| R | READING ROOM | HM | HEAD MASTER & MISTRESS | MP | MUSIC PRACTICE | ST | STUDIES |
| DO | DOCTOR | SE | SECRETARY | BR | BOARD ROOM | V | VESTIBULE |
| PC | PUBLIC CLOAKS | SCL | SCIENCE LABORATORY | DR | DRESSING ROOM | L | LAVATORIES |
| E | ENTRANCE HALL | SC | SCIENCE LECTURE | CL | CLOISTER | SP | SPARE ROOM |
| TS | TEACHING STAFF | ME | METALWORK | C | CORRIDOR | P | PORTER |
| OS | OFFICE STAFF | WO | WOODWORK | W | WAITING | S | STORE |
| R | REMEDIAL | HC | HOUSECRAFT | I | INSTRUCTOR | CR | CLASS ROOM |



Ground Floor Plan



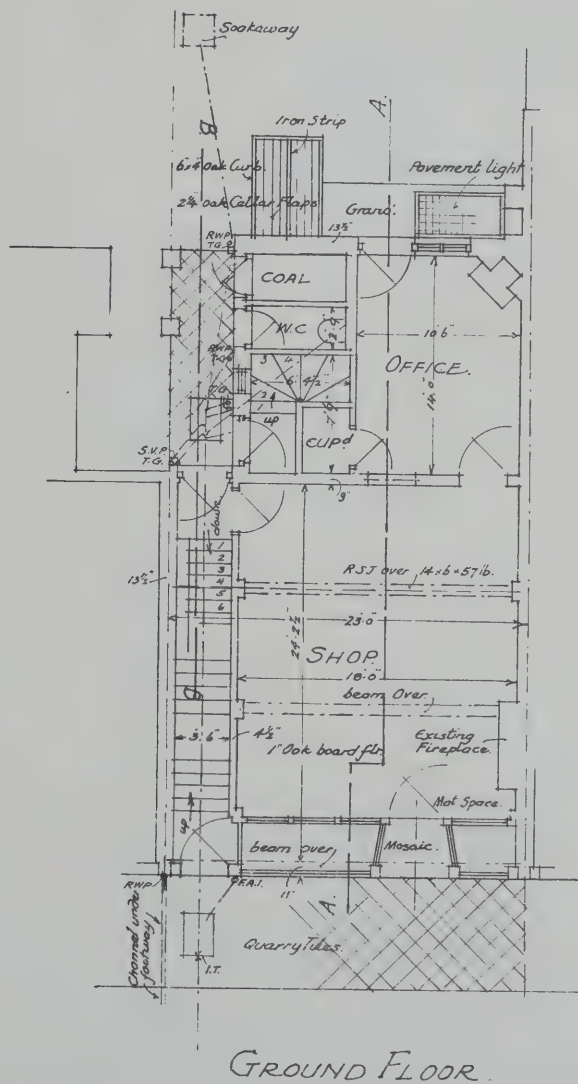
C T ADSHEAD A.R.I.B.A
ARCHITECT
14 ST. ANNS SQUARE
MANCHESTER.

PHOTO-LITHO'D. W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C.3

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR THE TRUSTEES OF THE BOLTON SCHOOL, LANCs.

C. T. ADSHEAD, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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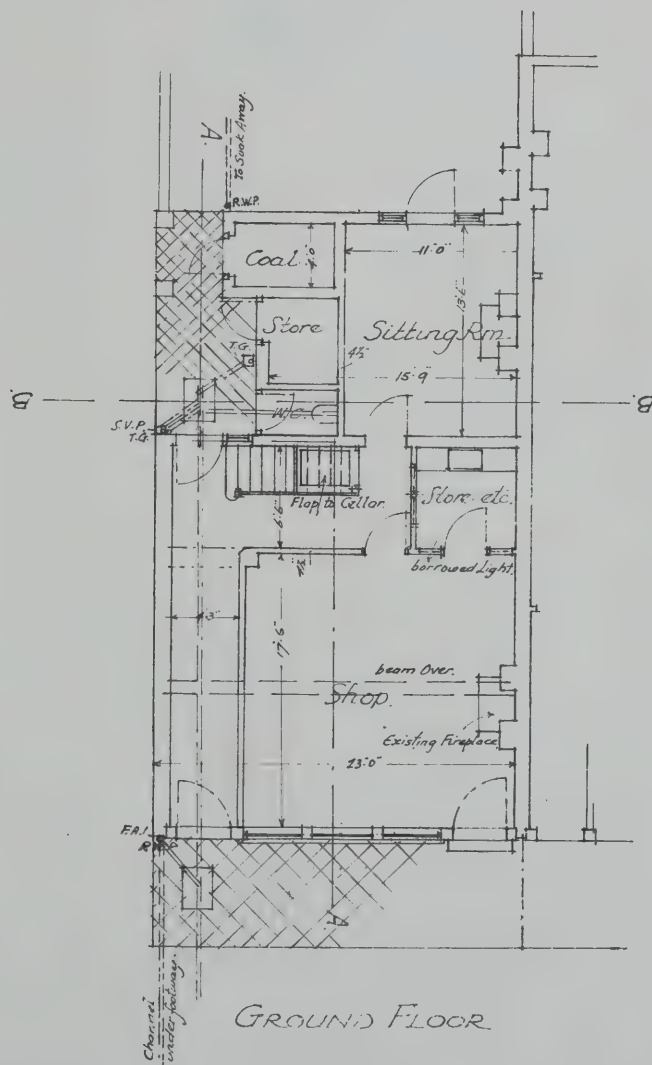
SHOP AT OXTED, SURREY.

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FRONT ELEVATION.



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THE NEW SCHOOL FOR THE TRUSTEES OF THE BOLTON SCHOOLS. C. T. ADSHEAD, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

The Architect's Functions.

We do not apologise for reproducing from the "Journal of the Architectural Association" a translation of a most excellent explanation of the architect's functions which was awarded a prize by the Society of Austrian Architects and has been circulated among municipalities and public bodies. The Architectural Association Journal's Editor asks why we should not follow the example set, and we agree, and therefore are willing to help to give it due publicity. Our greatest argument would be that the trained architect alone has experience in the difficult and complicated art of planning, and it is only by the utilisation of such knowledge that the client can obtain the most economical and efficient result. It would be impossible to estimate the immense sums which have been and are wasted through want of knowledge of planning, but it is safe to say that the total amount lost would probably pay the fees saved at least ten times over. This is the practical argument, sufficient in itself, leaving out all considerations of the architectural mistakes and pitfalls into which those without experience and knowledge inevitably fall. We should therefore always emphasise this point, for the rest goes without saying.

The Building Situation.

Difficulty has arisen over the proposed new National Agreement in the building trade. All the societies affiliated with the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives are now willing to sign, but the employers have raised the objection that the Federation no longer includes the bricklayers, masons, and plasterers. Under these circumstances we understand the employers' objections, as they as a body would be binding themselves to an agreement which might be almost valueless owing to the independent action of those belonging to important key trades. It would almost seem better, as the operatives will not all act together, to go back to the policy of individual agreements with each. Mr. Coppock refers to the absolute disunity among the employers, but their attitude is evidently the simple out-

come of the policy of Home Rule adopted by bricklayers, masons and plasterers.

The Missionary Tower of Babel.

Mr. Oscar Konkle is a New York builder with a passion for foreign missions whose son fell ill, and he decided to devote himself to the support of missions if his son recovered, which he did. Mr. Konkle is going to build a block of 65 storeys containing 5,500 rooms and 800 feet high, or 8 feet loftier than the Woolworth building. It is to be situated on Broadway above 122 Street and will contain an inter-denominational church and a missionaries' bank and at the top will be a hospital. It is estimated that the cost will be \$14,000,000 and the realisation of the scheme merely depends on Mr. Konkle's ability to dispose of \$13,000,000 of preferred stock at 8 per cent. Residents will have to agree to dispense with alcohol and tobacco. If the preferred stock is that of a company to promote the "tower" Mr. Konkle may have some difficulty in placing it, seeing that the skyscraper has not been found to be a paying proposition, in which case the new tower of Babel will never be built and the missionary enterprises will not net the 10 per cent. of the profits which Mr. Konkle promises them. In this sad eventuality the new enterprise is likely to remain a paper scheme, and the world will have to forego the delights of the 12 hanging gardens promised, which are, we suppose, to make up for the residents' enforced abstinence from tobacco.

Built-in Bookcases.

We have a letter from the Secretary of the Natural Book Council on the subject of built-in bookcases. He says that "few architects or builders can realise either the practical aspect of built-in shelves or their decorative value." Here we think he goes a little too far, though we are quite at one with him in his contention that book shelves should be provided in designing a house unless indeed the client possesses book cases. The sides of a fireplace where the chimney projects into a room afford a

useful and suitable place for book shelves where they always look well and where the cost of their construction is reduced to a minimum. There is also a good deal to be said in favour of doubling the shelf of a bedroom chimney piece to form a small book shelf. If a bedroom fire was constantly burning this would be a bad place for books, but in most houses bedroom fires are few and far between, and the top of the book shelf forms a mantelshef. But architects who are often blamed unjustly for not introducing cupboards for clients who will not pay for them in rooms which are already too small to permit of reductions from their space are not for similar reasons able to include built-in bookcases into their designs. But it is quite true that if bookcases are required they can be more readily and cheaply provided in the form of built-in shelves than that of bookcases which is the point emphasised in the letter we have received.

Furniture.

Mr. H. Stanley Barrett has sent us a copy of the third edition of his "A.B.C. History of Antique English Furniture," which is published by the Old World Galleries, Ltd., of 449 Oxford Street, opposite Selfridge's, and at the Elizabethan House, Henley-on-Thames. The price of the book is 2s. 6d., and though it may come under the head of a trade publication it contains a great deal of useful historical and technical information. The scheme of the book is the division of each type of furniture into dates periods, with a short description of each, and each is explained by a well-produced photographic illustration to small scale and a price at which such furniture can be obtained at the Old World Galleries. With the help of this book those who wish to furnish can make a preliminary selection and at the galleries see the actual pieces or similar pieces to those illustrated. There are many good and elaborate books on furniture and furniture design, but this combination of a trade publication and book is distinctly original and very useful, and forms a model which those connected with other businesses might well apply.

New Legislation affecting Building Operations.

We have received from the Home Office a copy of the new regulations in respect to certain building operations which it is proposed shall be put into force this year. These include scaffolding which it is generally stated shall be soundly constructed with good material. Every working platform which is more than 5 ft. above the ground shall be closely boarded, but a space of 3 inches may be left between planks used by plasterers only. Platforms shall be not less than 17 inches wide if used as a gangway only and not for the deposit of material, at least 34 inches wide if used for the deposit of material, and at least 43 inches wide if used for the support of any higher platform. If used for the dressing of stone the platform must be at least 51 inches wide. No trestle scaffold of more than three tiers or exceeding a height of 15 feet shall be used. The space between a wall and platform used for plastering a wall shall not exceed 18 inches. Planks used to form part of a run may not overlap one another. Every scaffolding pole must have its bark stripped off and at least one-third of the putlog holes used for supporting any platform more than 12 feet above the ground must remain until the platforms are removed. No person shall be employed on the outside of any roof of a pitch of more than 34 per cent. unless a parapet or platform exists for ensuring safety.

These seem to be the chief points of the new regulations which we trust will not materially affect the already high cost of building and which we hope are in reality necessary and not simply vexatious.

Clearway Petrol Filling Station.

This is, without doubt, one of the most up-to-date as well as the prettiest of England's wayside filling stations.

The architect, Mr. F. Sutton Smith, P.A.S.I., L.S.A., of Wallington, Surrey, the builder, Mr. R. Mansell, of Croydon, and the owner, Captain J. Ellis Dye, can be congratulated upon the result, which marks a vast improvement in wayside filling stations.

Situated midway between Farningham and Wrotham, on the new arterial road from London through Maidstone to Folkestone, Dover, Canterbury and Margate, the new "Clearway" filling station holds a commanding position.

The filling station is located on 10½ acres of land over one-half of which is grass, most of the remainder being woodland. The "drive in" extends 280 ft. along the main road, and is wide enough to allow two large cars to pass each other in comfort at a good speed. There is a covered drive which will take cars of a height of 10 ft. 6 in., which permits filling up with petrol in the rain without fear of getting water in the tank. All night the station is brilliantly lighted, having its own generating plant. The various ornamental pillars are surmounted with strong lights. The pillars are of bright red facing bricks and the panels rendered with "Atlas white" Portland cement. The roof is covered with "Coutraï" tiles.

The Clearway station is not only the last word in attractiveness and service as a wayside installation but situate as the depot is, in the midst of a charming spot, the advantages of the site are utilised to the full to make it a popular motorists' rendezvous. With this object in view, teas and refreshments will be available at all hours on the verandah facing the garden, which is being fitted up with an ornamental lake. Behind the bungalow which has been erected, there are to be tennis courts for hire, so that the motoring fraternity can make a short stay there particularly pleasurable on their run down to the coast. A putting green is also to be laid out where clock golf can be played.

There are installed "Wayne" delivery pumps, of which four are in use. These are of the improved five-gallon visible type, hand operated by means of a two-cylinder continuous flow. This type is of architectural beauty, after the Greek Ionic columns at the temple of Wingless Victory, Acropolis, Athens.

The above is a description which refers to a double inset plate published in our issue of September 11.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1875.

ST. CLEMENT DANES VESTRY HALL.

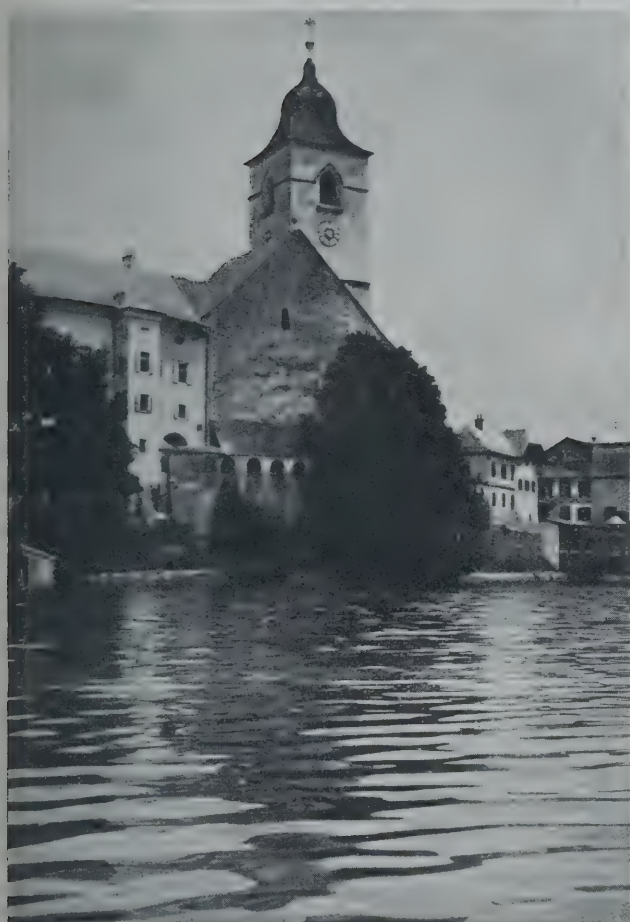
In consequence of the site of the old St. Clement Danes Vestry Hall, in Pickett Street, Strand, being required for the New Law Courts, the Government purchased it, together with the buildings, for the sum of about £18,000, and a new vestry hall has for some time been in course of erection in St. Clement Passage, near King's College Hospital. It is now completed, and will be opened in the course of a few weeks. The principal elevation is in Portland stone, and is in striking contrast to the buildings in the neighbourhood. The building consists of the ground-floor and a lofty storey above. The elevation to the top of the ground-floor is carried up with bold rusticated piers. It contains two lofty segmental arch windows, with massive carved heads for key-stones. The arch immediately above the doorway is surmounted by a circular canopy enclosing two recumbent figures. The upper floor has three circular arched windows, between which, and at each angle of the elevation, are pilasters, and on each side of the windows are polished granite columns. Above the windows is a bold cornice, and the elevation is surmounted in the centre by a carved pediment, with two smaller pediments at each angle, the intervening space on either side of the central pediment being filled in with a fluted balustrade.

The entrance hall and vestibule are laid with encaustic tiles. The general offices are on the left-hand side of the entrance hall. The mural decorations are in pale green, with carved and moulded cornices picked out in varied colours. There are other offices at the rear of the ground-floor. The Board Room occupies the entire width of the building on the upper floor, and its dimensions are 38 feet by 26 feet. The ceiling is coved, and divided into panels. The walls are also divided into panels. Between the wall panels there are grained marble pilasters. An elaborate moulded cornice is carved round the apartment east and west. The pediment on each side contains sculptured figures illustrative of the legend of St. Clement. A panelled dado in polished oak is carried round the Board Room. The floor is laid in oak upon an under flooring of pine. The offices of the vestry clerk and other officers are also on the upper floor at the rear of the building.

The architects of the building are Messrs. Cadogan & Butler, of Lincoln's Inn, and the builder Mr. Alexander Thorn, of Chelsea.

An Unproclaimed Masterpiece.

By Florence S. Campbell.



THE CHURCH OF ST. WOLFGANG.

Not often in the life of even the most ardent searcher after beauty, is his quest rewarded by the discovery of something that combines art in its purest form, with loveliness to a superlative degree, and then adds to the two, a real antiquity. Not long ago, however, I had the great good fortune to stumble upon just such a miracle.

For a few weeks past I had been poking around the Austrian Salzkammergut looking for nothing more sublime than a good trout brook, when one day I found myself near the Styrian frontier at a small "See" of such incredible blueness, surrounded by mountains at once so noble and yet so friendly to an unskilled climber, that I hung up my rucksack at the first little inn I saw, and said to myself "J'y suis; J'y reste." On the opposite shore lay a little village, the reflections of its lime trees and church tower wavering in translucent jade blue water, its quaint cottages of écreu, pink, grey and sage tossed in desultory fashion against the deep green of the pine clad mountain. St. Wolfgang. The name conveyed nothing to me except vague recollections of gaudily painted images idly glanced at as I plodded along yesterday's road—more or less rudely carved individuals they were, in mitre and wrongly turned pastoral crook holding in a casual hand a remarkably ugly little church. Evidently the village was named after him, its patron saint, anyway it was worth while going across to see the old church which, with its arcaded terrace, looked interesting.

Getting into one of the slender, high prowed boats that look so much like gondolas and which are propelled by a single spade-like oar, I literally shovelled my way across the unbelievable water, my eyes fixed upon the tower which I could now see was extremely old. Its massive walls, eight feet thick, had been washed over with a coat of soft tan, but when I reached the great south portal I could see that the original facings, pillars and entablatures were of solid red marble with a polished surface not unlike onyx, and I was not surprised to learn, from the old verger, as he toiled with me up the broad steps, that these, with the stone foundation work, were of much earlier date

than the rest of the church, which was destroyed by fire and rebuilt about 1450. In fact the first little church was built by Saint Wolfgang himself, over a stone grotto where he lived in retreat for five years—from 982-987. One may still see this out-cropping of rock jutting forth in the middle of a great shrine in the north transept and here are preserved the cross and chalice that actually belonged to the saint himself. The small church built in the tenth century over this grotto having been destroyed, a splendid one was raised upon the ancient site by the Benedictine monks whose dependency it was. This having in its turn succumbed in the fire of 1450, was once more rebuilt by the Abbot Benedict Eck who wisely used all the existing remains of the earlier fabric.

Within the quiet church, my eye was first caught by an enormous Baroque altar placed in the middle of the nave. It was gilded and painted, jewelled and twisted, garlanded with cherubim that looked more like pagan loves and festooned with a hodge podge of paper flowers, tinsel gewgaws and what not. Disappointed, for the beautiful austerity of line without had given me hope of still greater beauty within, I walked on, passed rows of massively carved and inlaid pews, their rails deeply burned (for these survived the fire but still bear the scars). Suddenly I looked up and saw the most beautiful altar piece in the world, or so it seemed, and still seems to me.

It stood in the full glory of the morning sun, seeming to emanate instead of reflect the golden light, and above the central carving soared the gilded and fretted Gothic pinnacles growing ever finer and more delicate until they filled completely the noble apsidal arch. In the great central carving each exquisite figure was instinct with life and feeling and the colouring as rich and warm as though it had just been applied by a master colourist, although the morning sun has streamed down on it for nearly five hundred years. At each side of the retable are four paintings in the form of wing panels showing scenes in the life of the Virgin Mary and her Son. Here again showed the hand of a master; but whose? Mantegna was the name that suggested itself most vividly in the drawing of the men's faces. Ghirlandajo in the colouring. Leonardo himself might have been responsible for that perfect perspective and, to leap to modern times, Sorolla could not have improved upon the treatment of light and shadow.

I turned over the winged panels, which represent "The Nativity," "The Circumcision," "The Presentation in the Temple," and the "Death of the Blessed Virgin" and found four other paintings on the reverse sides scarcely less beautiful than the first group, but still with a subtle difference. Behind these are two more sets of four wings, making in all sixteen paintings and at the lower edge of the back of the second pair of wings is a faintly traced inscription: "*Benedictus Abbas in Mansee opus fieri fecit accomplevit per magistrum, Michaellem Pacher de Prawnegg. Anno Dm. MCCCCCLXXXI.*" Michael Pacher! The name was almost meaningless to me although I had a vague recollection of two panels in the National Museum in Vienna, one of which, "The Flagellation of Our Lord," had interested me because of the curious symmetry of the drops of blood on the central figure—almost as though the picture, sketched in by a master hand, had been turned over to a conscientious but mathematical minded apprentice to finish.

For more than an hour I stood there spellbound before the altar—this masterpiece of a master artist—until the old verger lost his patience and reminded me none too gently that he was human and there was such a thing as food to be considered. So I gave him 100,000 Kronen (about seven shillings) which, being the equivalent of almost a month's salary, confirmed him in the idea that I was "ganz verückt" and then I went regretfully away, only to come back day after day to study and restudy my new-found ancient treasure, meanwhile trying to find out something of its history.

Lübke was a broken reed, for he, in his "History of Art," dismisses Pacher with a word. Even the great and comprehensive twenty volume work of M. André Michel gives him but a page and admits that little is known about him; and the Dictionaire of Bénézit devotes four little lines and five little works to his name! After a tiresome search in the Bibliothèque Nationale, in Paris, and the British Museum, London, I found a book in German, "Michael Pacher und die Seinen," by Oscar Doering, of which, alas, I could make little and an article by Auguste Marguillier "Un Maître Inconnu de XVme Siècle" in a recently published "Gazette des Beaux Arts" which gives him at last the honour which is his due.



THE ALTAR AT ST. WOLFGANG'S CHURCH.

From all sources, this then is what I gathered: In the early fifteenth century, at Brixen, that little city clinging like a limpet to the bleakness of a rocky defile in the highest of the Tyrolean Alps, lived a group of young artists cut off from the rest of the artistic world, and, because of their geographical isolation, absorbing the more eagerly what was brought to them by the occasional caravans of merchants travelling by way of the Brenner Pass, to Italy or Germany. From them these isolated enthusiasts absorbed for a time the warmth and colour of the Italian school, and then fell under the stronger, more austere German influence, but never did they combine the two, and so their sincere efforts fell far short of success. But, while the school of Brixen wavered, now towards Padua, now towards Venice, there was living at Bruneck, only a few miles away, a young painter and sculptor born about 1430-40, who was to combine in his art the genius of both north and south and bring to full fruition the perfect flower of Gothic art in Tirol. And yet, strangely enough, this undoubted master is only beginning now to be known. Of the works which we know were his, few now exist, and

some which we know to have survived are covered with mystery. A retable dated and signed "M.P. 1465," in the Chateau of Ried, near Bozen, and later sold to the late M. J. Klein of Vienna, has utterly disappeared, and will possibly be found by some lucky soul some day in a second-hand dealer's shop. It was an exquisitely carved representation of Our Lord surrounded by the instruments of the Passion with two saints and the Donor. In Medratz, near Fulpmes, the village church holds an Ecce Homo, which they claim as his work, and at Bruneck, in the parish church, is a more than life-sized crucifix, which is undoubtedly his.

In proof of the greatness of his art, as well as the fact that the world is only now becoming aware of it, there is, in the museum at Nördlingen, a very beautiful "Christ on the Cross," which tradition claims as the work of Michael Angelo. This, however, is quite impossible, because of the epoch and the style of the work, "But," says Mons. Semper, "might it not have been truly 'the work of a certain master sculptor from beyond the Alps named Michael,' but that master, might he not be our Pacher, not Angelo?"

The wings of an altar to St. Wolfgang and one to St. Lawrence ordered for the cathedral at Brixen in 1486, and executed by Michael Pacher, are now in the old Pinakothek in Munich. The carvings have not survived. In the Franciscan church at Salzburg, is a Madonna, which is claimed to be his work, but is spoiled by the addition of a nineteenth century child. In the parish church in Gries, near Bozen, is an altar piece showing the crowning of the Virgin between Sts. Michael and Erasmus, which is probably his, as the contract still exists, but these with a few doubtful fragments and four frescoes of the Church Fathers in the sacristy of the Stifts Kirche at Neustift, near Brixen, are all we know to be authentic with the exception of the following, which lately appeared in the "Illustrierte Zeitschrift für Kunstsammler" under the signature of Wilhelm Suida; "The picture gallery bequeathed to the art collection of Bâle by Frau Prof. Bachofen contains a fragment, probably that of a rendering of the 'Adoration of the Magi' with the 'Adoration of the Shepherds' in the background, which was up to this day not taken into consideration in Pacher research. It is here published as a genuine work of Michael Pacher, most likely of the master's early period."*

To return now to what Auguste Marguillier calls "cette incomparable merveille qui s'appelle l'autel de St. Wolfgang, un des chefs d'œuvre de tous les siècles," and of which Wilhelm Suida says, "bei Michael Pacher sind wir von vornherein nicht besser und nicht schlechter daran als bei Giotto oder Leonardo," we find that the contract for the work still exists in the archives at Linz dated 1471. The centre shrine was to represent the "Choosing by God of the Virgin Mary as Mother of the Saviour (not as some have said: 'The Coronation of Mary by Our Lord') and was to be as magnificent as possible. St. Wolfgang and St. Benedict were to be on either side, and outside the main carving were to be Sts. Florian and George and the Predella was to illustrate the Adoration of the Magi. It was also stipulated that the pictures in the covering wings were to be "well and carefully executed." How nearly ludicrous it seems that the worthy abbot should have tried to tie down to written promises a genius, who, agreeing merely to the carving of an altar piece of such and such dimensions, (eleven metres high and three wide), should make it an almost superhuman wonder, and, being told it must have two painted wings, gave sixteen glorious pictures!

The world is awakening to the wonder of this old altar-piece which had lain hidden for nearly five hundred years, and only recently "the British offered £80,000 for it, for one of their museums." But, to the credit of the poor village folk, be it said, that the offer was refused, and the great masterpiece remains in their little church.

* In Schloss Matzen, the residence at Brixlegg, Tirol, of the late Mr. Baillie Groham, author of "Tirol and the Tirolese," is a St. Michael which is believed to be a genuine Michael Pacher.

What is the Architect?

An Explanation of What the Architect's Functions Embrace.

By ARTHUR GRUENBERGER.

Two friends, A and B, meet and greet each other.

A.—If you had a little time I should like to ask your advice about a matter I have been thinking about—not to say worrying about—for some time.

B.—Most certainly.

A.—As you know, I want to erect a building, so as to get really suitable accommodation at last for my workshops and offices, as well as a house fully covering all my requirements. You have often built yourself, and you would be doing me a great service if you could advise me from your own experience how one ought to start that sort of thing.

B.—Very willingly. If I am not mistaken, you have already secured a site. Well, now go to an architect. He will best be able to help you.

A.—Yes, I had already thought of that. But not long ago I was telling a builder I know about my intentions. He will make me the plans for nothing!

B.—Really!

A.—You say that rather curiously. Don't you believe me?

B.—Oh, I believe you all right. I am only rather surprised that you, as a business man, can believe that any one can do work that takes nearly a year to do entirely for nothing!

A.—But if he is also erecting the building? Then—

B.—Then he will at any rate be in a position to pay himself back! From the little you have told me I can see that in these things you are as naïve and inexperienced as, unfortunately, most people are. Even in the smallest legal matter you would not hesitate to go to a legal expert—an advocate or a notary; and yet here, in a matter relatively so important, you are unable to see at the very start that the builder cannot be your expert building adviser. You would not ask the furnisher of the raw materials for your manufactures to supply you with whatever he thinks fit, and you would certainly not ask him to make a careful check on your behalf of his deliveries as regards quality and quantity.

A.—But excuse me, the builder is a very respectable man!

B.—Which, of course, I have never doubted for a moment. But he is the other—the opposite—party in a contract with you and therefore not at all qualified to look after your interests. So you see the difference in principle between the builder and the building supervisor, and what a fundamentally different position these two must occupy in relation to you by virtue of their functions. The builder is, as it were, your contractor, but the architect your confidential adviser.

A.—There you are really right. But of what, then, do the architect's functions consist?

B.—That is easily told. The architect is the expert adviser to the owner in every department—technical, legal, financial and commercial, and not least æsthetic and artistic. That is to say, he makes the plans, deals with the authorities, who have to sanction these plans, makes out specifications for the materials and labour necessary for the building, entrusts their supply in agreement with yourself to the contractor making the most advantageous tender, supervises the execution of the building and checks the accuracy of the accounts as they come in. In each of these functions he is not merely your adviser but also the representative of your interests.

A.—Yes. . . . Yes. * but do not be impatient with me. To you the meaning of all you say is as familiar as the words themselves, but I haven't quite understood it all yet. He makes the plans, you say. But on what basis?

B.—You have just told me you want a house entirely fulfilling your requirements. There it is your task to make your mind clear as to these requirements. The clearer you are as to what you require and what will suit you, the more will the house be really your house. The architect

will systematise your wishes, give them form and expression, and also show you how they can be realised in the most economical manner. If I am not mistaken, you will also want to let parts of the house. The architect will tell you, in accordance with his knowledge of the requirements of the tenants in question, how the plan should be made for the purpose. Your wishes and your interests having been well considered and put down on paper, this furnishes the "draught" which forms the basis for an estimate of profitableness showing what the results of your undertaking (for every kind of building is that) will be.

A.—That would be very important to me, for I have never been clear as to how much money I really require for the building, what rent my tenants will pay me, or what rent I shall have to pay myself for my premises. One could at least see how far one's wishes might be carried without risking a fiasco. But I have heard so much about costs being exceeded. Cannot that be avoided?

B.—Just as you insert an amount in your commercial estimates for business risks, to protect you from loss in case of unforeseen occurrences, you would have to put in an item "contingencies" in your estimate of profit. The word plan does not relate merely to the drawings necessary for erecting the building, but to everything relating to the building, so that it comprises a sort of financial plan as well. Everything must be thought out and weighed so that everything may go on systematically; the more thoroughly this building plan is worked out the less there will be in the way of "contingencies."

And now it occurs to me how I can most fairly put the architect's functions to you, apart from his purely technical work as engineer or as artist: The architect organises. He is the organiser of the building in every respect.

You tell him what you want as regards accommodation and he "organises" your requirements. He creates a living organism, dimensioning, connecting or grouping the rooms according to their objects, so that in their entirety they adequately fulfil the demands made upon them by your business and even promote it. The layman calls such a plan "practical" when he recognises its advantages, but the architect regards it as a "solution." And this word conveys more; for to him, if he is conscious of his responsibility, every building task becomes a problem which has to be solved socially, artistically, economically and technically. And, talking of responsibility, I should like to tell you that the architect is responsible not only to his principal but in a certain sense to the public also, for he puts his works out on the street, where owing to their durability they are liable to annoy or to rejoice thousands. And—to give you an example of enormous responsibility—think of an architect who has to plan a whole town; he influences the lives of generations!

A.—And if it is only tenement houses that are to be built?

B.—Then it is merely another problem that must be solved, and certainly not the least important. It is his social knowledge, his knowledge of the necessities and living habits of the different strata of the population, combined with his organising talents, that qualifies him to plan a block of workmen's dwellings to-day, and to-morrow a block of flats which will satisfy the most refined taste in the matter of dwellings. In neither case does he know the tenants, but he does know their requirements. And if you yourself should be unable to get your mind clear as to what you need—for that is certainly not easy—then the architect's counsel and experience will point out the right way.

A.—And you said something about dealings with authorities?

B.—As you must know, there are building laws, for the observance of which the building authority is responsible. Only if this authority intimates its approval of your

building proposals, that is to say, if it passes the plans submitted, only then can you proceed with the building. At this stage of the building proceedings the architect, owing to his knowledge of the building laws, will be your ready advocate with the public authorities and your neighbours. During the negotiations regarding the labour and materials relating to the building he will be able, owing to his knowledge of men and affairs, to play a similar part with the firms who compete for the supply of such labour and material. In this latter case he has to play the part of a trustee, as it were, whom you have commissioned to purchase certain goods for you. And now it will be perfectly clear to you why the builder cannot simultaneously be the building supervisor, quite apart from the fact that the architect and the builder are often also marked out from each other by their different professional training and their practice. So you will understand why I called you naïve just now and am sure you will forgive me.

A.—To me the personal question seems to play a special part in the allocation of work. Of what use to me is the best contract with a business man who is untrustworthy?

B.—Of course; and there is another thing. A man is very much inclined, when it is a question of things he knows nothing about, to buy the cheapest, out of, shall we say, meanness; this isn't thrift, for to spend money thriftily is to spend it as profitably, as economically, as possible. Here both quality and durability play a large part together with the price. Guided by an expert architect you will avoid grave mistakes. The maintenance of a building is a continuous expense, whereas the cost of erection comes only once. For these reasons of economy and foresight I would not undertake the smallest building work without the advice of an architect.

A.—Well, but isn't the architect's fee very high?

B.—It differs with each particular case. If you want particulars on the subject you should consult the scale of fees for architects. There you will find the architect's work so arranged, both as regards its nature and extent, that even before putting any work in hand you can always be perfectly sure of the amount of the fee to be paid for any kind of work you may want him to do. This is also an item of expenditure which comes into the estimate of profit.

A.—Then when the work is given out is a start made with the building?

B.—Yes. The necessary detailed plans are now prepared in the architect's office, and on the site the building is directed and supervised, that is to say, the architect decides in what order the work is to be taken in hand, so that the different parts shall be advanced simultaneously or fit in with each other, as may be required in order to save time. Here too his systematic and organising methods instill order into the busy crowd of workmen who, directed by him, "work into his hands." He also sees that the work is executed in accordance with the plans laid down by him, and supervises the quality and quantities of the material supplied.

A.—And when the building is finished?

B.—He then checks the accounts sent in. This is purely a commercial function, the importance of which will not be underestimated by you.

A.—By no means. I have now, on the whole, quite a different opinion of the architect's calling, and I am almost ashamed to say I imagined that an architect was only employed if a particularly fine frontage was wanted.

B.—That is probably the popular view. But even that is based upon a false idea of what is called "the artistic function of the architect." This does not by any means consist in decorating the surfaces of the building externally or internally with designs of one form or another. In the course of our conversation I said that the architect would give "form and expression" to your wishes and that the architect "creates an organism." Probably you paid little attention or attributed no particular meaning to these expressions. Such an organism is something living, a structure animated by an idea and by feeling, and therefore a characteristic, individual and artistic production. It is really of little importance whether architects select one or

another method of decorating or not decorating their work; moreover, we can be more or less indifferent on the subject for, between ourselves, they are here and there at loggerheads among themselves on the subject.

A.—His artistic will, then, is embodied also in the ground plan?

B.—Naturally.

A.—One thing more. What does the architect do in such a case as yours, seeing that owing to your long experience you are already half way to being a building expert yourself.

B.—Just so . . . half way! There I can only quote again my comparison with the lawyer. You may have won a hundred law cases and concluded a thousand contracts, but as a careful business man you will always seek the expert's advice, not in spite of, but precisely in consequence of your experience. It is just the same in building.

A.—Well, I must thank you very much for your explanation—and also for your patience. I am sure I have learned a great deal.

B. (laughing).—But I have learned something too. My architect once said to me: "One of the most difficult problems of our profession is the education of the man who wants to build." I know pretty well now what he meant.

[This has appeared in the *A.A. Journal*.—Ed.]

Correspondence.

Sculpture.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—In your last week's issue you included some modern sculpture ideas by Jacques Lipchitz.

It is difficult to define in words what the soul desires to realise in sculpture. A correct representation of nature in no way satisfies the artistic longings or aspirations of the real sculptor. The public has been gratified by work which reminds them of forms they have seen and understood.

It is difficult to believe that much of the public appreciation of high art is the outcome of a real expressable understanding. Judges and critics have passed a verdict. And the majority have found it convenient to adopt the same. Each individual—be they in possession of a thinking and reasoning mind—strives to understand the artist's inspirations. The human form is beautiful when it reveals the life within. This life has been depicted by many sculptors in many different ways. The life within is not necessarily expressed by lifelike forms. The work must express a spiritual meaning, or the pose must reveal a beauty of line and form which appeals to the higher nature within ourselves.

Referring to the illustrations of Jacques Lipchitz, which you included in your last week's issue, the policy which governed the inclusion of this young man's work is, of course, quite sound from a journalistic point of view. It is distinctly an advantage to know that we possess a periodical which is edited by a man who is broadminded. Personally, I could never have sufficiently divorced my own feelings about such work as to have induced me to include it in a publication of which I was the editor. To me the illustrations represent masses that have become dissociated from reason. Only the unbalanced could see possibilities for architectural application.

Were this young man my son, or were I in any way responsible for his future wellbeing, I should be more than perplexed.

Obviously the ordinary government art school would be unable to influence or guide him. Were he to attend such an educational institute he might, after some years, become one of many thousands who can draw and model reasonably well, but who have no imagination. To permit him to develop himself seems to be the only course open, and following such a course I could only hope that during his lifetime he would be able to find a sufficient number of kindred minds who would purchase his productions and thus keep him from starvation.—Yours,

METHUSELAH.

The Problem of the Pediment.

By Matlack Price.

From the "Architectural Forum."



Pediments of the Temple of Zeus at Olympia
From Restoration in the Metropolitan Museum

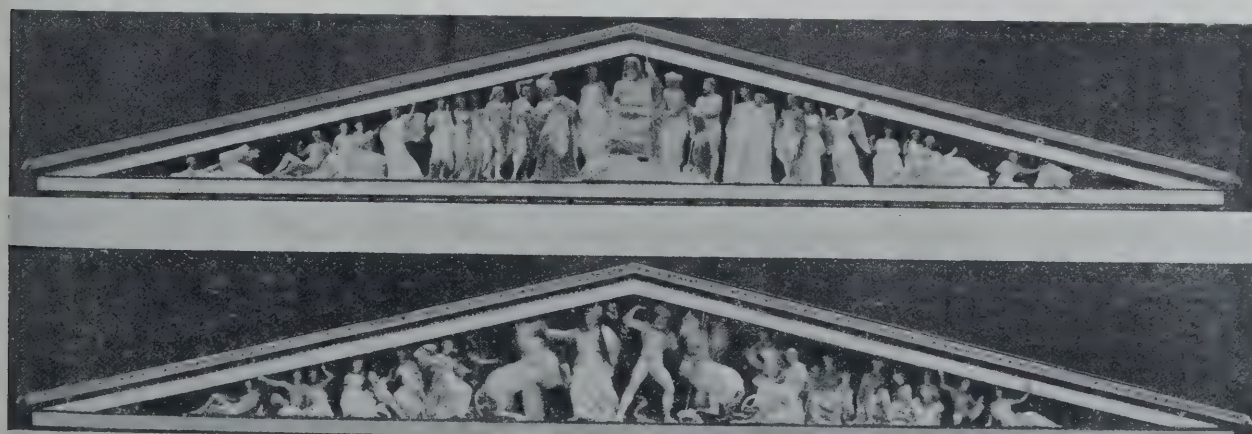
It is doubtful if any architect, certainly any architect who has had occasion to design one, would deny that the pediment is a problem, and none the less so by reason of the amount of effort expended upon it by the ancient Greeks, and by many others who have attempted it in later years.

The term "pediment" is here used inclusively, and is intended to mean, as well, the tympanum, that important triangular space designed to be filled, well or indifferently, by the sculptor. In the actual framing of that space there is plenty for the architect to do, what with split fillets and the management of the mouldings where the oblique line takes off from the horizontal—plenty to do even if he stops short of doing too much, which he sometimes does. It is a mistake, certainly, to allow distinctly architectural elements, such as dentils or modillions, to infringe upon the space, restricted enough at best, in which the sculptor is to work. Many otherwise very good modern pediments have been complicated, to their distinct detriment, by this architectural encroachment, and the sculptor has been correspondingly handicapped.

Our premise here, at the risk of seeming obvious, is that the pediment is a very real problem, and one which too often fails to receive an adequate solution because two minds—two men, not one—the architect and the sculptor, are needed to create it. And, after the architect has provided a fair triangular space, the lion's share of the problem rests squarely on the shoulders of the sculptor, provided he is allowed a reasonable chance to exercise the creative skill of which he is capable without interference.

Professor Gardner, of Oxford, says ". . . the composition of a pediment is as exactly regulated as that of a sonnet or a Spenserian stanza; the artist has liberty only in certain directions, and must not violate the laws of rhythm." This is very true, even allowing that it demands some general agreement as to just what is meant by rhythm, and just what the rhythm of a pediment composition should be. The problem of the pediment has, from its nature, been alternately a favourite battlefield and playground for professors of classical archæology, virtually any one of whom would be hopelessly incapable of designing a pediment, no matter how many thousand words of good advice he might be able to write regarding it.

In the matter of pediments we live, perhaps, more oppressively in the shadow of the achievements of antiquity than we do in that of any other particular of architectural design. There has been a bit too much rhapsodizing about the qualities of certain ancient pediments (notably that of the Parthenon) and not enough thought about the pediments we have tried to make in modern times, or may have to make to-morrow. The Parthenon pediment may not have been quite so good as some classical architectural historians think it, and some modern pediments may not be quite so bad as they consider them. On this point it is distinctly refreshing to find Gardner admitting that all ancient Greek sculptors were not divinely inspired in the design of pediments, even though he extends no laurels to the moderns: "If it be thought strange that so simple a condition as the triangular form of a pediment should prove so trying to the Greek sculptor, it should be



Pediments of the Parthenon
From Scale Models in the Metropolitan Museum

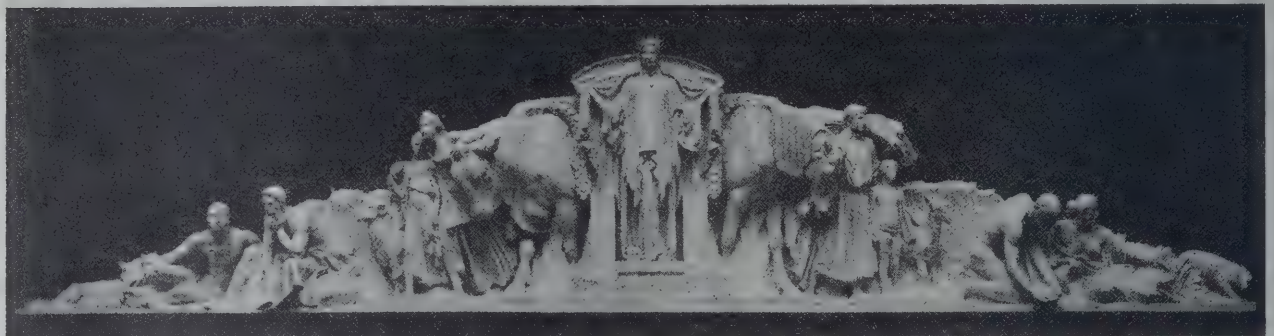
observed that modern sculptors have also tried their hands at pedimental compositions, and with very moderate success. It would not be easy to find a pleasing modern pediment. Of course the modern sculptor works at a disadvantage, as the resources on which the Greek relied are not open to him; he cannot vary the sizes of his figures in accordance with their dignity, or fill the corners with reclining river-gods. But even apart from these disadvantages, the difficulties inherent in the form are very great." Such has been the general experience.

Temple of Pallas Athene, or as contemporary with it. Judged solely from the remains, and even from the restoration, the composition of the figures seems too pervasively dominated by the shape of the space, and the relative scale of the figures is changed in one of the pediments far more conspicuously than in the other instance, which is likely to confuse the observer, as does any variation from established scale.

In all critical commentaries on the pediments of the Parthenon there is unanimous praise, and not infrequently



Pediment of the New York Stock Exchange
J. Q. A. Ward, Sculptor



One Pediment of the Capitol of Wisconsin
Karl Bitter, Sculptor



Another Pediment of the Capitol of Wisconsin
A. A. Weinman, Sculptor

In the last sentence of this paragraph, incidentally, there is a distinct contradiction to the opening statement of its first sentence, in which the professor characterises the triangular form as "so simple a condition"—a kind of contradiction that robs much technical writing of the clearness which should be its chief characteristic. And even Russell Sturgis says: "The supremely noble statues of the Parthenon pediments may or may not have made up an ideally fine design for the filling of the triangular space at either end"—a statement which, to a student certainly, must seem to beg the question by failing to supply a logical answer.

Among the first of the Greek pediments usually cited as a criterion are those of the Temple of Zeus at Olympia, a late archaic work, often dated as a little earlier than the

some phrases that can well be taken as a sort of working basis by the modern sculptor. Nor is it entirely fair to judge exactly the artist's whole intention in the broken fragments that remain, or even in the various conjectural restorations that have been made. The restoration in the scale model in the Metropolitan Museum shows a pair of pediments that seem a little over-crowded and a little too diverse in the different scales of the figures, but there is a note of inspiration in Sturgis' statement that the Parthenon sculptures "are accepted by all as the most perfect types of the human figure treated grandly in art." The note is still there, even when he qualifies thought about the Parthenon by saying: "Nude forms and drapery alike are the models of all perfection, and there is even a certain added firmness of mass and line, as of figures intended

to have a severely limited field which they were to fill. And yet it cannot be said that the admirers of Greek architecture are quite sure, all of them, that the building would be better for what is, after all, highly realised sculpture in the round." And after a comparison with the high relief metopes, he isolates one of the chief difficulties inherent in the problem of the pediment ". . . whereas we know that relief sculpture, both high and low relief, is the ideal adornment of a noble building, we cannot be equally sure of the architectural effect of statues set high above the eye, upon the broad shelf above the entablature." Such is the opinion of Sturgis.

Tarbell is less doubtful, but he also is less concerned with the pediment figures as works of architecture than as works of art, when he says ". . . even in their ruin and their isolation the pediment figures of the Parthenon are the sublimest creations of Greek art that have escaped annihilation." And we will read further only what Warren said in his "Foundations of Classic Architecture" before going on to the observation of a few modern versions of the problem of the pediment. The whole danger in the too general and often too extravagant apotheosis of the Parthenon pediments is that architects and sculptors to-day are inclined to feel that a chance no longer exists to do a good pediment—that the last good pediment in the world was designed (conjecturally) by Phidias, and that there is no use in trying very hard to do a really fine thing to-day. "The pediment sculptures," writes Professor Warren, in his lucid discussion of the Parthenon, "were groups of freestanding figures of heroic size, very carefully designed with reference to their mutual relations and to their positions on the building. There was no longer, as at Aegina and at Olympia, a rigid central figure separating the two sides. In each case two figures—Zeus and Athena, Athena and Poseidon—balanced each other by an opposition of inclined lines. From the violent action of the central groups, with their miracles which provoke the astonishment of the nearer-divine spectators, the movement diminishes at either side to the cadence of the impassive figures near the angles. The groups—standing, then seated, then reclining—are combined with so harmonious a rhythm of lines that the adaptation to the slope of the pediment seems spontaneous and inevitable. The mastery of the external anatomy of the human form and the naturalism of treatment surpasses anything hitherto achieved in Greece, and reaches the highest bounds of sculpture, with a serene dignity worthy of the most monumental architecture. In all we can trace the directing mind, in the finest figures, such as the 'Fates,' perhaps that of Phidias himself."

This kind of eulogy, even if we disregard entirely its exact basis in the facts involved, or if we admit that it is justified by the facts, has undoubtedly had the unfortunate effect of intimidating the architect and sculptor to-day, at the same time that it glorified the achievements of classical antiquity. I do not wish to be understood as meaning that the pediments of the Parthenon have been unreasonably over-rated, but I do believe it to be unfortunate that the general effect of such criticism tends to discourage new effort on similar problems. There is no real reason why sculptors should not try with all their ability to design really fine pediments, even if those of the Parthenon have not been equalled in modern times.

With this thought in mind, it is interesting to examine a few important pediment compositions done in this country, and especially a recent pair designed by Edward Field Sanford for one of the new buildings of the California capitol at Sacramento. Of the two pediments from the capitol of Wisconsin, the arrangement of that by A. A. Weinman is excellent, not only in the scale of its figures but in their relationship and in the clever device of the exedra seat which gives four of the figures a logical pose admirably related to the slope. This is an example of a pediment in which too much architecture has invaded the territory of the sculptor, who would have had greater freedom without the dentils and modillions in the tympanum.

Illogical scale in the figures, as well as a feeling of restlessness, mars the pediment of the New York Stock Ex-

change, long regarded as a fine modern example of pediment design. The figures are not only out of scale with each other, but with the whole façade, and in four instances seem to hold their positions only by a distressingly precarious margin. Design of this kind may come about through too much belief in inspiration as a guiding factor. Inspiration is a splendid factor in any kind of creative art, but in a problem so exacting as the problem of the pediment, another factor, and one of inestimable value, is intelligence. Intelligence will see an artist through to a logical and well reasoned result, which is a high form of art, even though inspiration may elude or betray him. Of all artistic problems related to architecture, the problem of the pediment demands all the intelligence of which an artist is capable, involving not only a thorough appreciation of the architectural aspect of the thing, but an appreciation as well of the importance of working with the architect, and with a study of the pediment, from the very start, in its relation to the entire building.

Thus Mr. Sanford, in his preliminary studies for the Sacramento pediments, modelled them at one-inch scale, in sketch form, as part of the whole building, not as an isolated project. And it is only in this way that any relationship in harmony of scale, or in harmony and design in the massing of the figures can be achieved. Quite aside from poses, or from any symbolic meaning the figures may have, the elements of pediment design as confronting the artist are lights and shades and voids and solids. With these elements he must construct a logical design that will not only be finely balanced and co-ordinated in itself, but must also be finely related to the whole building. The elements of design as Mr. Sanford employed them in the Sacramento pediments were elements of weight, both physical and optical, voids and solids, and inclining lines—and always a sense of scale. Adhering to classic precedent, he utilised heroic scale for the central figures, but kept all the others in uniform scale. And as another very important consideration, he modelled the drapery of his figures to effect in them the same "colour" as that of the columns below.

In the matter of weight in design there is always a nice distinction as between figures that *look* heavy and figures that *actually are* heavy. To this distinction Mr. Sanford was very sensitive, and placed all his figures directly over the spaces between the columns below. His idea here—and an excellent idea—was to give the masses of his figures the optical effect of securely resting on the sturdy architrave blocks, and at the same time to avoid the unfortunate effect that would have resulted if the figures had been placed so that they seemed to be continuations of the columns. Such a logical system as this escapes any danger of overcrowding or of a too sparse treatment, and must come nearer to achieving that quality of "rhythm" about which so many critics have written, and which so few seem able to define.

In these two pediments, also, there is a well articulated balance between the voids and solids, and none of the feeling of overcrowding which has marred many otherwise good pediment compositions. Inclining lines in the figures at right and left of the centres lead effectively, but not too conspicuously, to the central figures, so that the compositions have movement, but an organised movement very different from mere restlessness. In his adherence to such fundamentals, Mr. Sanford has proved himself not only highly observant of the merits and defects of many executed pediments, both ancient and modern, but has shown himself a lucid and logical thinker as well. While inspiration was by no means absent, his work here clearly reflects a high degree of intelligence, of analytical reasoning as the guiding light.

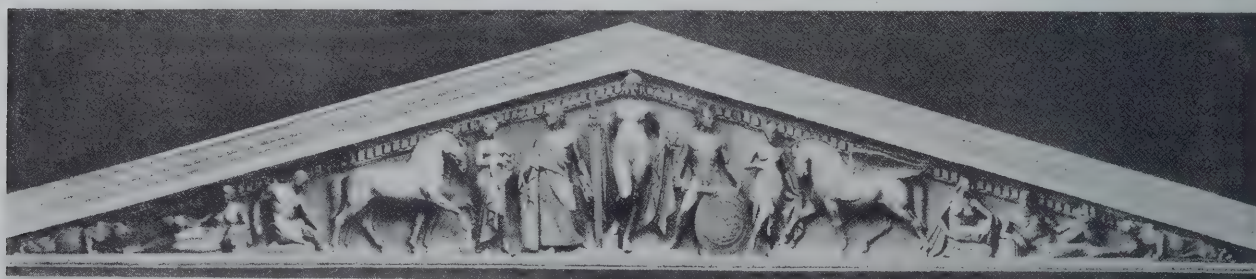
The subjects for the figures in classic pediments were generally taken from mythology pertaining to the temple, or from its presiding deity, and in most cases the two pediments are related to each other in the significance of the subjects chosen. From the central figure of the pediments figures of lesser importance extend to the extreme angles. In planning the subjects for the group in the two Sacramento pediments, Mr. Sanford very properly gave thought

to public appeal, a thought far too often deemed undignified by many architects and sculptors. Yet I think it is not a very debatable point, the point that a work of art is more rather than less a work of art if it is keyed to the taste and interest of its own time. The subjects of the pediments, then, are California of the '49 era and California of to-day, treated very rightly, in classic allegory in character with the architecture. There may some day be an architecture that will assimilate realistic sculpture—but it is not yet on the horizon, and Classic architecture will go on demanding Classic sculpture as its accompaniment.

The thought paralleling the chronological symbolism of the pediments is that of the world giving to California in the days of its early settling, and of California giving to the world to-day. Thus, in the first pediment the central figure is that of a primitive woman, strong and rugged. Right and left of this figure are figures symbolising the natural barriers that confronted the early settlers—the rivers and mountains. Here, too, are the pioneers themselves, oxen, and the buffalo of the plains. Near the extreme right are a mother and child, typifying the new generation, and the acute angled corner is skilfully filled by the figure of one of the pioneers, blowing a fire. By way of contrast to this more peaceful and constructive aspect of the settling of California, the left end of this pediment introduces a fighting group, the rougher element in early days.

The central figure of the second pediment, California of to-day, shows a cultured California, wearing the helmet of Minerva, goddess of wisdom; at her left and right are two sons, statesman and warrior. In succession, leftward, extend figures symbolising floral beauty and richness, horses, agriculture, the harvester, progress and, in the extreme angle, a bear, the state's symbol. To the right, the warrior son bears the seal of the state, and there are figures symbolising natural beauty—the figure of Pegasus—inspiration and poetry, treasures, commerce and harbours and, lastly, the mountain lion.

This, however, is the Baedeker aspect of the design of the pediments, and while it is agreeable to have the various figures mean something as related to the history of California, Mr. Sanford's real achievement should be measured, rather, in terms of architecture and sculptural design as related to architecture. He has approached the problem of the pediment with an open mind and a clear eye, giving due recognition to the classical past history of the pediment, but not allowing himself to be intimidated by it. More than this, he has approached it intelligently, basing the main premises of his composition on the architectural facts of the building in which the pediments were to be placed, and recognising as the essentials of the composition the inescapable fundamentals of void and solid, light and shade, weight, mass, balance, rhythm, and bringing every part of the entire design into its proper relationship.



The Second Pediment of the California Capitol
Representing California of Today
Edward Field Sanford, Sculptor



One of the Pediments of the California Capitol
Representing California of the Period of '49
Edward Field Sanford, Sculptor

Building Progress.

New premises are well forward in Wandsworth High Street for Wandsworth Technical Institute, Mr. Topham Forrest being the architect, and Prestige & Co., Ltd., the general contractors; New Peterborough Brick Co.'s Flettons are being used; and the Cement Marketing Co.'s "Blue Circle" cement. Not far distant, too, we noticed a large extension of Freeman's factory going forward on Lavender Hill, where Gaze's (of Kingston) are the contractors; Flettons being used are those of New Peterborough Brick Co., and London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd. Cargo Fleet steel joists are being introduced.

Additional to the list of sub-contractors given in our issue of July 31 last, connected with the new Plaza Theatre, rising in Regent Street from the designs of Mr. Frank T. Verity, we can give the following:—Grant & Sons, plumbing; Tredegars, Ltd., for the Western Electric automatic telephones installation; Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., for turbine vacuum cleaning plant; and Etchells, Congdon and Muir, for lifts.

St. James' House, in St. James' and Ryder Streets, is an important block of offices now in progress. The architect is Mr. George Vernon, A.R.I.B.A., and Arthur Vigor, Ltd., the general contractors; Smith Walker, Ltd., for steelwork; Kleine floors; and Grant & Sons, for plumbing.

On the site of Nos. 46-47 Pall Mall, new offices are being erected. Messrs. Higgs and Hill, Ltd., are the contractors; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., are supplying the constructional steelwork; and the Cement Marketing Co. are supplying their Blue Circle brand of Portland cement.

An extension for the Army and Navy Co-operative Society is under construction in Spencer Street at the rear of Victoria Street, for which Dove Brothers are acting as general contractors; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., are engaged for the structural steel work; and the Fletton bricks are those of Hicks & Co., Ltd.

Book Notes.

"Bungalows and Small Country Houses." Gilbert Wood & Co., Ltd., 6-11 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus. 2s. 6d. nett.

Sixty-four separate schemes are illustrated in this publication, 124 ground and first floor plans are included in connection with the above schemes; 89 elevations and 24 perspective and photographic views explain the characteristic external details of the buildings. The list of contributors includes the names of 25 well-known architects who have gained for themselves considerable distinction in the field of architectural design as applied to small domestic houses and bungalows. The book includes 46 descriptive notices, which have been written by the contributing architects, which describe the character of the materials used and in not a few cases the actual cost of the houses is given, either in a lump sum or on the cubic foot basis.

Being a publication prepared by ourselves, it is somewhat difficult to write a critical review, and we have therefore contented ourselves by giving detailed description of the actual contents. In conclusion, it might be said that none of the illustrations have previously appeared in *THE ARCHITECT*.

The illustrations are printed on sepia-toned fine art paper in a deep brown ink, which blend very successfully. The chief aim of the publication is to place before the public some tangible ideas as to what must be paid for certain accommodation. No designs which would cost more than £3,000 to build have been included in the book.

The list of contributing architects is:—Mr. Robert Atkinson, F.R.I.B.A., Messrs. Eugene C. Beaumont & Son, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. Albert E. Bullock, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. L. Stanley Crosbie, F.R.I.B.A., Messrs. Easton & Robertson, A.A.R.I.B.A., Mr. Cyril A. Farey, A.R.I.B.A., Messrs. Cyril A. Farey & Graham R. Dawbarn, M.A., A.A.R.I.B.A., Mr. Percival M. Fraser, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. G. Alan Fortescue, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. P. D. Hepworth, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. W. J. Palmer Jones, Mr. S. H. Lawrence, Mr. Harold E. Moss, A.R.I.B.A., Messrs. E. W. Mountford & Partners, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. Geoffrey T. Mullins, A.R.I.B.A., Messrs. H. F. Murrell & R. M. Pigott, A.A.R.I.B.A., Mr. J. Val Myer, A.R.I.B.A., Messrs. Nicholls & Hughes, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. Briant Poulter, F.R.I.B.A., Messrs. H. Reginald & Briant Poulter, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. C. H. B. Quennell, F.R.I.B.A., Messrs. H. M. Baillie Scott & Beresford, Mr. C. Wontner Smith, F.R.I.B.A., Messrs. P. Westwood & Emberton, A.R.I.B.A., Messrs. Wills & Kaula, F.A.R.I.B.A.

"Kelly's Directory of the Building Trades." 50s. nett.

Every business organiser recognises that he must for ever be tilling new ground. In the building industry much of this work is done by the splendidly arranged "Kelly's Directory of the Building Trades." Before passing on to a review of the contents of the 1925 volume it might be as well to point out that the volume affords a striking example of intensive organisation, and as such can be helpful to many who are seeking to establish sound business ventures. Every successful office is arranged to lighten the burden of work and by this means increasing the production and activity of every member of the organisation. Messrs. Kelly's new volume for 1925 is arranged in the simplest manner possible.

The book comprises:—(1) The names for each County, arranged alphabetically under the towns and villages; (2) An alphabetical classification of Trades for the London Postal District, with the names of those engaged in each trade arranged in alphabetical order; (3) A similar classification of Trades for the rest of England, Scotland and Wales.

There is also an extensive section, giving, in alphabetical order, the names of Branded Articles and Specialities used in the Building Trades, together with the names and addresses of the manufacturers.

This Directory embraces England, Scotland and Wales, and the principal towns in Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. In addition to the names of upwards of 20,000 builders, it gives also the names of those engaged in the professions and allied trades, such as architects, surveyors, builders in concrete, plumbers and glaziers, gasfitters, sanitary engineers, etc., and of manufacturers and suppliers of the different articles and materials used.

"Reinforced Concrete," by Albert Lakeman. London: The Concrete Publications, Ltd. 2s. nett.

This is a very useful little book, written with the intention of affording practical help to those who have no special knowledge of the theoretical side of the subject but who have to deal with it practically in building. The articles have appeared serially in the monthly journal, "Concrete and Constructional Engineering," but are here given in convenient book form. The illustrations given are simple line diagrams, easy to understand and follow. The eight chapters into which the book is divided cover The Explanation of Terms, Loads, Reinforcement, Neutral Axis, Reinforced Concrete Beams, Fixed and Supported Beams, The Leverage of Beams, Bending Moments, Shearing Stress and Slabs, Reinforced Concrete Columns, Reinforced Concrete Walls, and Bases and Foundations.

Mr. Lakeman is well known for his practical and scientific knowledge of a difficult subject, and he has the invaluable faculty of explaining his points in a very clear and thorough manner.

Every builder who is carrying out a reinforced concrete building would do well by giving his foreman a copy of the book, as the result of its study would obviate many of the simple but important mistakes which are made in carrying out ferro-concrete work. The enormous strength and readiness with which difficult problems of construction can be carried out in ferro-concrete may prove a danger if the simple points on which its efficacy depend are not thoroughly understood, and the most perfect and complete set of drawings can only be properly carried out by the man on the spot who understands the fundamental principles of this most wonderful of all methods of construction.

"Oxford Renowned," by L. Rice Oxley. Methuen and Co., Ltd., 36 Essex Street, W.C. 12s. nett.

Mr. L. Rice Oxley has written a delightful book on Oxford, which is very pleasing, illustrated by a number of drawings in colour and monotone by Mr. A. B. Knapp Fisher. We do not agree with the author's contentment with the railway station, or with his outspoken condemnation of the new Town Hall, but when he is describing the colleges and older buildings he is on more secure ground. The book is not in any sense a guide, but a well-written and composed series of impressions founded on his knowledge of Oxford and charmingly interwoven with anecdote and historical allusions. In defining what Oxford stands for the author says: "Oxford stands for a high quality of work, it realises that education does not consist in a mere accumulation of facts, but that facts are only material on which to train a critical and disciplined mind; it protests against superficial and hasty thinking, and demands thoroughness and exactness; it is very tolerant of all views and opinions which are based on real knowledge and are the outcome of genuine thought." And again: "Above all, and in sum total, Oxford signifies that the mind is a thing more valuable than matter, and that a right judgment and a right behaviour are precious things in human society, and therefore, Oxford is a bulwark against barbarism." It is to be expected that with such views, the stones and associations of Oxford are precious things of great price to the author, that it stands in his imagination as a background for the great humanist movement which has been going on since the early days of our history. We have in the book little architectural criticism, but the expression of appreciation and affection which, when sufficiently well expressed, are always pleasing to the reader.

The Claims of Local Architects.

The following correspondence has been sent us from the secretary of the Leeds and Yorkshire Society of Architects, and we think it will interest our readers.

Proposed Leeds Street Improvement. Victoria Square—St. Peters Street.

62 Woodhouse Lane,
Leeds.

August 17, 1925.

DEAR JONES,—When I saw you on Saturday afternoon last, you asked me to give consideration to this very important matter over the week-end, and to communicate with you on Monday. This I now do.

As far as I understand it, the position is as follows: For a long time we, as architects, have known together with the public, that the Corporation had in mind a vast undertaking in connection with the formation of a new street from Victoria Square to St. Peters Street, an undertaking likely to involve the ratepayers in a very large expenditure, and I think I am right in saying that we as the Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society, numbering a good many highly competent architects of standing, together with a considerable sprinkling of clever men of the younger, if less generally known, school of thought, have daily expected to be approached in an advisory capacity by the Improvements Committee of the Corporation.

More recently, in common with the general public, we have heard that the Corporation had obtained certain (very extensive) powers in connection with the proposed street, and had definitely engaged the services of an architect, Sir Reginald Blomfield, to carry out the whole of the work (as to design and working drawings) on the north side of the new street.

I also noticed in the Press that the services of this architect had been secured by the Corporation on the recommendation of our Society. You, together with the Society as a whole, are well aware that this statement is totally incorrect. If I remember right, some years ago, Sir Reginald Blomfield's name was one of several submitted by our Society at the request of the Improvements Committee as suitable to advise them in connection with a building about to be erected on an important site in City Square, the designs for the façade of which (not by a Leeds architect) they felt were not in keeping with their ideals or the surroundings. Sir Reginald Blomfield was selected by the Improvements Committee, and as far as I know his advice was useful to them, and of value in preserving the amenities of City Square.

Without going into detail, it will be obvious that a man considered suitable by our Society to *advise* the Corporation on the façade of one building, is not necessarily the man we should consider best fitted to undertake the *design* of nearly half a mile of what I suppose will be one of the most important Provincial works ever undertaken by either a public or private body.

However, in this connection, is the method of "thinking of a name" the right one at all?

I imagine not.

Obviously there is only one way of getting the very best in a case of this sort, and that is by *competition*. Naturally I am rather strongly of the opinion that Leeds work should go to Leeds people, and there are clever architects in Leeds.

Why not a competition limited in the first case to architects practising in Leeds, and assessed by a jury of eminent men. If no thoroughly satisfying result was obtained in this manner, then a second competition, open to the architects of the world. Surely the contemplated works were of sufficient importance to warrant such a course?

In Leeds, our magnificent Town Hall, to mention but one of many important buildings, was erected from the designs of a *local architect*. I must leave it to you to call to mind some of the buildings given us by better-known men from further afield. You will admit that there is reason in my plea that Leeds architects should at least have been given a chance. Then consider other really important work of the moment, and of recent years—Liverpool Cathedral, for instance. Is such work *given to*

men approaching seventy years of age? No, it is *won in competition* by men often not numbering half these years.

I am afraid I digress.

In this case the work has been definitely given to Sir Reginald Blomfield some weeks ago I understand, and we as a Society are now asked to send a deputation to meet the Improvements Committee on August 25, this deputation to be empowered to name three architects to act in an advisory capacity with Sir Reginald Blomfield (at his desire, I believe) if so requested by the Improvements Committee.

You ask my opinion on the situation, and the following points occur to me.

(1) To be of any real service to the ratepayers, the Corporation or Sir Reginald Blomfield, this Society should have been consulted in the initial stages of the proposed street improvement.

(2) We have no inside information as to the real intentions of the Improvements Committee, but from what we have read, and heard in common talk, we are, to put it mildly, far from certain that they are acting in the best interests of the ratepayers or the city.

(3) Being asked to come in at this, the eleventh hour, when we can obviously be of no honest service, makes me think that it is possible that we are desired to pledge ourselves to a course which we may later regret.

Under these circumstances, I propose to move the following resolution at the next meeting of our Council:

"Leeds Street Improvement, Victoria Square to St. Peter Street."

"This Society, while appreciating the courtesy of the City of Leeds Improvements Committee in asking that a deputation should wait on them in the Council Chamber at the Leeds Town Hall at 3.30 on August 25, in connection with the proposed new street between Victoria Square and St. Peters Street, and that this deputation should be empowered to name three architects to act in an advisory capacity with Sir Reginald Blomfield if so requested by the Improvements Committee, feels that the time has now passed when such a deputation could be of assistance to the Improvements Committee, and not having been informed of the duties, responsibilities or qualifications required of the three advisory architects, do not feel competent to submit suitable names. Under these circumstances, this Society does not feel justified in wasting the time of the Improvements Committee, and begs to be excused from the meeting on August 25. The Society would like to take this opportunity of denying the statement which has appeared in the Press that they had suggested the name of Sir Reginald Blomfield as a suitable architect for the present street improvement, but assure the Improvements Committee of their wholehearted support of this or any other scheme for enhancing the dignity, beauty or amenities of the city consistent with a due consideration of the interests of the ratepayers."

I am very sorry to bother you with such a long letter, but I feel that the present situation is very important in its bearings on our Society in its relation to civic activities of this kind, and I feel strongly that as a Society we should avoid putting ourselves in a position which may make it incumbent on us to serve the interests of a Corporation until we are assured that these are also the best interests of the city and citizens. With the information so far vouchsafed to us, we are not in possession of this assurance.

I know how worried you are about this many sided business, and only hope that my definite, if hurried, expression of opinion may help, and not hinder you, in coming to a decision.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN E. PROCTER.

W. Alban Jones, Esq.,

President, The Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society.

Alderman Charles Lupton, J.P.

Chairman,

The Improvements Committee,
Leeds City Council.

**Proposed Leeds Street Improvement.
Victoria Square to St. Peters Street.**

August 24, 1925.

DEAR SIR,—At our interview on the 21st inst. I put forward a private letter to myself from one of our members, because it epitomised the reasons that led my Council to unanimously pass the resolution forwarded to Mr. Lancashire on the 20th inst.

At my request, Mr. Proctor has withdrawn his ban of "confidential" so far as members of your committee and this Society are concerned, and I therefore append a copy of his letter for the information of your committee should you think it advisable.

I put forward Mr. Proctor's expression of opinion primarily because it was endorsed by my Council, but also because he is in a position to voice the opinions of the younger members of our profession through having devoted much voluntary service to the cause of architectural education in Leeds in much the same disinterested way that you, sir, have dealt with the more comprehensive affairs of the city.

You stated on Friday that it was impracticable to put into writing the duties and responsibilities of the suggested three advisory architects, but mentioned that "goodwill" was one of the main essentials.

I have a similar difficulty in exactly defining questions mainly of æsthetics, and am thus prompted to rely on this somewhat informal letter as being the best means of explaining the attitude of my Society.

Officially, æsthetics may not be recognised, yet you will agree that they persist in being the very salt of life. I offer no excuse in referring you to the Charter of Youth contained in Barrie's Rectorial Address at St. Andrews (a copy of which I enclose and ask your acceptance) as affording the right cue as to what has happened in this Society. *It is the younger men challenging the favours continually going to their elders.*

These younger men look round and see a University in Leeds, standing for local culture; they view its outward architectural manifestation—the work of accomplished Londoners of their day—and do not feel impressed.

They compare the recent Menin Gate memorial design at Ypres by Blomfield with what is being done by the younger men of to-day and, very naturally I think, they feel that their elders deprive them of their local birthright in not allowing them at least "to enter the lists."

The Victorians gave a young Broderick his chance to emerge with the Leeds Town Hall and other works, which alone almost of the buildings of yesterday in this town remain of any real architectural distinction. Why should not these men at least press for a similar chance?

Their seniors perhaps whisper counsels of diplomacy, tell them they are exceeding the code of gentility in referring to these realities, that the die has once again been cast by their elders, and it but remains for them to serve and wait till they, too, are old, retaining only the inspiration of the aged.

In the present case, these younger men, seeking how best they can serve, are told that an accomplished London architect, whom all respect, full of years and honours, has already been commissioned to design and fully detail over half a mile of street façade in Leeds, and has courteously requested that three local architects should act in an advisory capacity with him. The duties of these architects may or may not involve important mundane decisions affecting the very essence of the scheme, which, if efficiently collated, would leave a clear field for the more alluring function of pure design.

These architects are told that these duties cannot be reduced to terms of reference, and *may* involve those of the critic, but with "goodwill" it is hoped that any differences between them and Sir Reginald Blomfield may be settled before the design is laid before the City Council for approval

They are told that the fee for the designer has been fixed at £3,000, and that possibly an honorarium of £100 might be paid to each of the local advisers, which latter, I, as their President, would suggest should be foregone in favour of voluntary service to their city.

The younger men (and many of the older ones) whose opinion I voice, say that respect for the years and honours of the designer appointed forbid them, at any rate, rendering efficient service as critics, and foreseeing a probable impossible position at a later stage, say let our resolution of the 18th stand, as we think it wiser that they who appointed Sir Reginald Blomfield should be free to appoint the advisers (even if from members of our Society) whom they may consider best adapted to avoid any *impasse* that may hinder the scheme.

I find, sir, that the Mr. Connachie of Barrie in me insists on my endorsing the position taken up by the younger men with whatever weight there may be in the presidential office of this Society.

Allow me to thank you, Alderman Brow Dickinson, Councillor Noon, and Mr. Lancashire for the lengthy interview you accorded to several members of our Society on Friday last, and as the matter is one of urgency for your Committee to-morrow, I hope you will find this letter is the most expeditious way of enabling you to proceed with business.

Yours faithfully,

W. ALBAN JONES,
President.

We received the above copies of correspondence from the Secretary of the Leeds and Yorkshire Society with permission to comment thereon. As this permission did not entitle us to give the letters, and as we thought it best that they should be given as they stood we wrote asking for permission to publish them. This permission has only been given a few days ago, and we now give the correspondence. In the interim we find they have been published in contemporary journals, and we, therefore, conclude that the correspondence was not sent to them with the same covering letter as was written to us, otherwise they could not have given them publicity.—ED.

University of London, University College.

OPENING OF NEW SESSION.

On Monday, October 5, and Tuesday, October 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., students of the Bartlett School of Architecture will be received by the Senior Tutor, Professor Richardson, and the tutor to architectural students.

On Wednesday, October 7, at 5.45 p.m., the students of the evening courses in architectural design and of the architecture atelier will assemble.

Competition News.

In connection with the proposed erection of a school on the Brockhurst site the Education Committee have decided to invite architects to send in their names with particulars of works they have carried out, and some will be selected to submit competitive sketch plans.

The Canadian Immigration Department having removed from British Columbia House to the Canadian new building in Trafalgar Square. The Union Bank of Scotland, Limited, have secured for its West End Branch the ground floor portion which was occupied by that Department in British Columbia House, 1 and 3 Regent Street, S.W.1. This Branch will be opened, as soon as the alterations are completed by the building contractors, Messrs. Kirk & Kirk, Ltd., of Atlas Works, Putney, by the strong room contractors, The Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd., of Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.4, and by the electric light contractors, Messrs. Leo Sunderland & Co., Ltd., of 40 Albemarle Street, W.1. The work is being carried out under Mr. Alfred Burr, F.R.I.B.A., of 85 Gower Street, W.C.1, the architect of the building which was completed ten years ago.

BOURNEMOUTH.—The contract for a new church to be erected at the corner of Beswick Avenue and Columbia Road, Ensbury Park, has been let to Messrs. Marshall & Bower. The architects are Messrs. George Baines & Son, F.F.R.I.B.A., Chartered Architects, of Westminster.

General News.

ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.—Plans have been prepared by Mr. J. Sydney Brocklesby, F.R.I.B.A., of London, for the new church of St. Oswalds Roman Catholic, Ashton-in-Makerfield. The church will accommodate 700 people, and the estimated cost for the structure, without fixtures, &c., is £20,000 to £25,000.

BEDFORD.—Plans passed: alterations, poor law institution, Kimbolton Road, for Mr. W. E. G. Hull, for Guardians; workshop, 16 Rothsay Place, for Mr. W. B. Stonebridge, architect, 26 St. John Street, Bedford; extensions, Modern School, Midland Road, for Mr. G. P. Allen; shed extensions, Elstow Road, for Igranic Electric Co.; 2 houses, Park Avenue, for Mr. A. W. G. Prosser, architect, 28 Lurke Street, Bedford; additions, Fox and Hounds, for Mr. E. H. C. Inskip, architect, 27 Goldington Road, Bedford.

BRIGHTON.—The Corporation have decided to proceed with the construction of roads and sewers on the Beershop Field site, where 382 houses are to be erected.—The borough surveyor has prepared plans for the erection of 32 flats at a cost of £550 each on a site at Moulsecomb.—The United Women's Homes Association, Ltd., are to erect 12 flats in Ladysmith Road.—Plans passed: alterations, Alexandra Hospital, Dyke Road, for Governors; alterations, premises in Trafalgar Street, for Foster Bros. Clothing Co., Ltd.; alterations, Ship Inn, Lewes Road, for Kemp Town Brewery; 4 houses, Stanmer Villas, for Mrs. A. Munday; 10 garages, Dyke Road Drive, for Messrs. Mead & Co. (Brighton), Ltd.; 7 houses, Hangleton Road, for Mr. A. E. Porter, architect, Matlock Road, Preston, Brighton; 6 houses, Milner Road, for Mr. C. E. Mitchell; alterations, 28 Elder Place, for Messrs. J. Sainsbury, Ltd.; alterations, 20 & 21 Western Road, and 19 Grenville Place, for Rego Clothiers, Ltd.; 6 houses, Harrington Road, for Mr. T. R. Braybon & Son, architects, 107 Edward Street, Brighton; 6 houses, Stanmer Park Villas, for Mr. G. E. Gower; alterations, 43 & 44 London Road, for Jolliboy's Universal Stores, Ltd.; charging room and oil store, Edward Street, for Southdown Motor Services.

CHICHESTER.—The Corporation have decided to invite tenders for erection of 44 non-parlour houses on the Lewis Road site.

CLITHEROE.—The T.C. have instructed the surveyor to prepare plans of the proposed new fire station at Lowfield together with ambulance accommodation, recreation rooms and other offices, at an approximate cost of £5,000.

FINSTALL.—Improvements are to be undertaken by the Worcestershire Education Committee at the Finstall council school.

FULHAM.—Messrs. D. Morris & Sons, Ltd., 57 Charing Cross, are to erect lock-up shops at the corner of Palliser Road and Margrave Gardens.

GOSPORT.—Education Committee have accepted the tender, £6,678 10s., of Messrs. J. Hunt, Ltd., for the erection of a central school for boys.

HALESOWEN.—The governors of the Halesowen Grammar School have prepared a scheme for enlargements which will cost about £20,000. Preliminary approval has been given by the educational authorities of Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

HARROW.—Middlesex County Education Committee have obtained a site in East Lane for the erection of an elementary school.

HOLBORN.—The Borough Council have decided to purchase some dilapidated houses in Betterton Street and recondition them at a cost of £12,800 for use as accommodation for the working classes.

LEWISHAM.—Plans passed: 21 houses, Shell Road, for Messrs. Thos. H. Sawyer & Son, Ltd.; new street, from Bromley Road to Whitefoot Lane, Catford, for Mr. J. Everington; building at Kemble Street and Loxton Road, Forest Hill, for Mr. F. Clode; houses in Gordonbrook Road and Chudleigh Road, Brockley, for Messrs. J. W. Heath & Sons; 9 garages, Tredown Road, Sydenham, for Mr. E. A. Stone, architect, 20 Berkeley Street, W.; one storey shops, Perry Vale and Siddons Road, Forest Hill, for Messrs. White, Dent & Co.; 10 houses, Kilgour Street, for Mr. F. C. Benstead; rebuilding Green Man Hotel, Southend, Catford, for Messrs. Rice & Co.; 37 houses in Penberth and Thornsbeach Roads, for Mr. T. A. Boughton; 45 houses, Embleton Road, for Messrs. T. H. Sawyer & Son, Ltd.; 10 houses, Adamsrill Road, for Messrs. Dorrell Bros.; 8 houses, Baring Road, for Mr. A. Durbin; 6 houses, Kemble Road, for Mr. F. Clode; 12 houses, Ashwater Road, for Messrs. Eaglin Bros.; 10 houses, Blythe Hill Lane, for Messrs. Midletons (Builders), Ltd.; 5 houses, Thorpewood Avenue, and 3 in Sydenham Hill Road, for Messrs. R. Jenner & Son; 20 houses, Southend Lane, for Mr. Arthur J. Glock; 26 houses, Brightling Road, for Mr. Arthur J. Glock; 10 houses, Dallinger Road, for Messrs. W. J. Seudamore, Ltd.; 4 houses, Fernbrook Road, for Mr. James Whiting; 26 houses, Tatnell Road, and 3 in Grierson Road, for Messrs. W. T. Champion & Sons; 42 houses, L.C.C. estate, for Mr. J. G. Stephenson.

LYE.—Lye & Wollescote U.D.C. are obtaining an estimate of the further houses that are required, there being 200 applicants on the Council's books.

LYTHAM ST. ANNES.—The M.H. has sanctioned an application by the Lytham St. Annes Corporation for permission to borrow £26,500 for the reconstruction of the Lytham public baths.

MALTON.—It is proposed to erect a new hospital at a cost of £16,000, and will provide accommodation for 26 beds. Architect, Mr. J. E. Bladen, of Liverpool.

MANSFIELD.—The new Carmelite convent is to be opened early next year, the house and grounds of Beechenhurst in Crow Hill Drive, have been acquired, but to adapt the place to the peculiar conditions demanded by the Order, a great deal of building has yet to be done.

NEWBURY Housing Committee recommend the tender, £11,672, of Messrs. Hoskings Bros., of Newbury, for the erection of 32 houses on the St. Georges Road site.

NORTHFLEET.—Plans passed: alterations, Half Moon public house, for Russels Gravesend Brewery Co., Ltd.; alterations at Rose Inn, Perry Street, for Messrs. Bridgland & Clay.

ST. PANCRAS.—The Ministry of Health have approved the plans prepared by Mr. A. J. Thomas, the Borough Council's architect, for the new buildings to be erected on the Somers Town improvement area.—The reconstruction is proposed of the bridge over the Regents Canal in Kentish Town Road. The cost will be £8,000.

WEMBLEY.—The Council report in favour of the scheme of the Middlesex County Council for the construction of a Harrow-Watford Road, at an estimated cost of £360,000.—A cinema to hold 2,000 people is to be erected on a site at the corner of Park Lane and High Road on land belonging to Hampfields, Ltd., who surrendered a part of the High Road frontage on the understanding that the whole of the remaining area might be built upon.—Mr. J. C. Isaacs has prepared a layout of 11½ acres which he proposes to develop near Stanley Avenue, with a density of 13 houses per acre.—Mr. Abrams has prepared a scheme for the development of the Curtis Estate, Deadman's Hill, comprising 22 acres and showing a building density of 15 per acre.—Messrs. Brittle & Co. propose to erect a hostel in Preston Road in close proximity to their sports ground.—Mr. H. Sabey is about to develop building land on the One Tree Hill estate.—Plans passed: 38 houses, Bassingham Road, and 12 in Danethorpe Road, for Mr. A. Holland; 22 houses, Rosslyn Crescent, and 6 in Castleton Avenue, for Messrs. Comben & Wakeling, Ltd.; 4 houses, Wembley Park Drive, for Messrs. Comben & Wakeling, Ltd.; 4 houses, Braemar Avenue, for Mr. J. C. Pickering; 6 houses, Pasture Road, for Capt. E. G. Spencer Churchill; sports pavilion, Woodstock Hill Lane, for Messrs. Selfridge, Ltd.; 5 houses, Park Road, and 2 in Station Grove, for Messrs. Clarke & Denison; 2 shops, St. John's Road, for Messrs. Neale & Cook.

WILLESDEN.—The Ministry of Health have agreed to the acceptance of a tender by the Calway Construction Co. for the erection of 100 concrete houses.—The governors are to erect a new ward at the Willesden General Hospital, Harlesden Road.—Mr. H. H. Foster, architect, 169 Balham High Road, S.W.12, has prepared proposals for the development of Gladstone Park Gardens, Dollis Hill Avenue and Oxgate Lane on behalf of the Owen-Owen Estate, Ltd.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Greenwood Terrace, for Messrs. M. Greenwood & Sons, Ltd.; additions, White Hart Hotel, Church Road, for Messrs. J. F. Fisher & Sons, architects, 38 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.1; 4 houses, Brondesbury Park, for Messrs. Western & Arnell; new factory and roads, Whitby Avenue, Park Royal, for Messrs. Walter Bridges & Co., on behalf of Indestructible Paint Co., Ltd.; 8 houses, Mount Pleasant Road, Kensal Rise, for Messrs. F. Thornton & Co.; petrol station, High Road, for Mr. G. A. Sexton, architect, 42 High Road, Kilburn, N.W.6, on behalf of Metropolitan & Provincial Oil Co., Ltd.; 4 shops, Hamilton Road, for Messrs. Pearce & Taylor; additions to factory, Abbey Road, for Willesden Construction Co., on behalf of Electric Flow Meters Co., Ltd.; 12 houses, Liddell Gardens, Kensal Rise, for Messrs. Done & Hunter; additions, billiard hall, Wendover Road, Harlesden, for Mr. R. Jones; show room and repair shop, Dudden Hill Lane, for Mr. H. Shaw, architect, 60 Nicoll Road, Harlesden; 6 garages, Chichele Road, Cricklewood, for Mr. Isaacs; 4 houses, Doyle Gardens, for Messrs. E. W. Jermy & Son; workshop and stores, Bridge Road, for Mr. R. S. Avery; 5 houses, Ivy Road, Cricklewood, for Mr. A. G. E. Barnes.

WORTHING.—The present school having been condemned by the Board of Education, the people of Our Lady's Parish, Worthing, have to provide a new elementary school. The new erection will necessitate an expenditure of from £8,000 to £10,000, a site has been obtained in High Street at a cost of £950, and no architect has yet been appointed.

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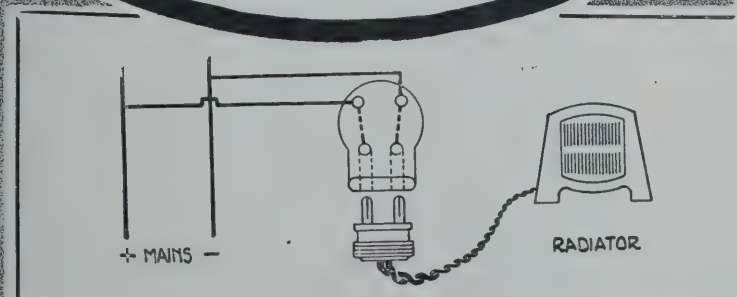
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Messrs. Mellowes & Company, Ltd., of Sheffield and London, have sent us an illustration of their Stand at the recent Building Trades Exhibition held at Birmingham which gives a comprehensive idea of their exhibit.

New Catalogues

To pass favourable comment on the many different manufactures of Messrs. S. W. Francis & Co., Ltd., 64-70 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1, is not a difficult problem. The firm has long since established a sound business reputation based upon the fact that no goods are delivered which will not pass the most careful scrutiny. Such a policy, extending throughout the whole period of the firm's long business career, has created a hall mark in connection with their products of which they may be justly proud. In the pages of the catalogue that the firm have sent us will be found a large variety of designs in connection with each different class of goods that the firm produce, amongst which the most important are rolling shutters in steel or wood; metal shopfronts and name plates in brass, bronze, metal or nickel silver; spring roller blinds for inside or outside use; collapsible steel gates; wrought iron grilles; plate glass facias, etc.

Messrs. Smith, Major & Stevens, Ltd., Northampton, the well-known lift makers, send us a well arranged catalogue illustrating the activities of their door springs, casement fittings and sundries department. In this field the firm have gained a sound position. The "Janus" door springs are known to many architects for their quality. Under the same name and title the firm have placed on the market swivel centres, single and double door stops, casement fastenings and sill bars. Upwards of 60,000 adjustable "Janus" door springs have been fixed in several cases for periods of 40 to 45 years without repairs. Messrs. Stevens & Major's patent hydraulic spring and check is applicable to double-action as well as single-action doors. The fitting secures absolute silence of action. The rate of closing the doors is adjustable by unskilled persons. Amongst other illustrations will be found kicking plates, adjustable shoe, expanding adjustable shoe, high shoes, all representing the very latest designs for door fittings. In the casement fittings the catalogue exhibits a careful consideration for securing the maximum comfort and easy working of the whole casement.

Messrs. J. H. Sankey & Son, Ltd., Canning Town, London, E.16, have sent us a catalogue which explains in a most detailed manner "Fosalsil" fireproof insulating bricks and partition blocks. Messrs. J. H. Sankey in issuing the catalogue have thought that the best method to impress their clients was to print and thus supply those interested with facts concerning their "Fosalsil". The word is derived from Fos—Fossil; Al—Alumina; Sil—Silica, and has been registered. Great

insulating powers are claimed for the bricks and blocks and the data offered by the firm to prove their contentions and claims is of a very interesting and instructive nature.

Messrs. Tangye, Ltd., Birmingham, have issued a catalogue which deals with their well-known pumps, vertical and horizontal. The catalogue sets forth in a concise manner the facts that architects and others should consider and supply when ordering pumps. Like many other special appliances Messrs. Tangye's fittings are designed to secure the best possible results for certain definite purposes. The pumps can be adjusted to fit all circumstances and conditions with ease and without any delay. A number of fine illustrations of the different pumps are included, each with a comprehensive description of their action and purpose.

Messrs. The Morris Westminster Guild, Morris House, Rochester Row, S.W.1, send us their latest catalogue. The booklet has been well thought out and much artistic talent and taste is incorporated in the production. The illustrations are well selected and each page is attractive by virtue of the fact that only in very few instances is more than one illustration depicted on a page. This enables those interested to concentrate their minds on the subject before them to appreciate to the fullest degree the design and the quality of the execution. Some colour plates are also included and the booklet is many points better than the usual productions that are distributed. The Morris Westminster Guild is to be congratulated upon possessing a far-sighted vision and for making a decided move towards the correct mental attitude that should govern all appeals to the architectural profession.

A Correction.

In our notice of exhibit of the Aston Junction Co., Ltd., at the Birmingham Building Trades Exhibition published in our issue of September 11th inst., we stated that the firm successfully make an effective display with numerous well-known slates, including Old Delabole (with a continuous history extending over the past 300 years), Bangor, Portmadoc, Bangar, and also of the more recent productions of asbestos cement slates in various colours.

The sentence should read:—Old Delabole (with a continuous history extending over the past 300 years), Bangor, Portmadoc and Westmorland, etc., etc.

CONTENTS.

A Plea for Simplification	PAGE 233	Electrical Installation	PAGE 242
An Old Cotswold Town—Burford	236	The Panelled Room at Hale Hall	244
Colour in Architecture	239	International Federation of Building and Public Works	246
The Extension of Architectural Metaphor	241	General News	248

A Plea for Simplification.

The regulations dealing with scaffolding and other temporary supports, which have been issued by the Home Office, are only one of many recent signs suggesting that we are developing along wrong lines. We do not assert that the regulations are in themselves unreasonable, for they are based on the desire to safeguard the lives of those employed in building, and to protect them from the chance of injury. But either a large number of Government inspectors must be employed to see that the regulations are carried out, or they will remain a dead letter. A good contractor

ing matters. On the other hand, when representations have been made to them to the effect that certain clauses in building bye-laws are onerous and might be waived with advantage, their action usually takes the form of supporting the officials of the authority in question in their objection to change. Round London and in some other districts, we are now allowed to build the walls of small buildings directly off the concrete, without brick footings, but in many districts, permission will not be given to adopt methods which are sound, economical and reasonable. We may, in such cases, appeal to the Ministry, but if we do so, no help is usually forthcoming. We are still forced to reduce the size of rooms in a roof in order to comply with an absurd regulation to the effect that the space of flat ceiling shall bear a given ratio to that of the floor, and we find obstacles placed in the way of the use of wood in constructions.

The Ministry has laid down a system of procedure under which they can themselves insist, when petitioned, on holding an enquiry to settle whether the Housing and Town Planning Act should be adopted in a given district, but when all formalities have been complied with, they frequently do nothing. This is an example of legislation intended to promote public improvements which is largely negated by the unwillingness to put it in operation.

On all sides we are being hemmed in by the growth of departmental interference, involving fresh rules,



MARIEFRED, SWEDEN.

usually employs a foreman who takes every precaution necessary, a bad employer is more casual in his methods, and may, from carelessness, or a desire to save expense, neglect proper precautions. But, in both cases, the various trades unions, who are by no means anxious to save the employer money, may be depended on to look after the interests of their own men, and such matters may reasonably be left between the employer's organisations and those of the trades employed, as there is always the additional protection of an action against the employer who has been at fault.

The Ministry of Health issues a multitude of pamphlets and leaflets dealing with housing and other build-



HOUSE AT STOCKHOLM.

new Acts, more salaried officials, yet a large number of existing Acts are infrequently enforced, and it will soon pass the wit of any man to find out what he can do without interference or where he is not contravening some departmental regulation.

We have a plethora of Royal Commissions to enquire into businesses and occupations of all kinds, the activities of which were previously regulated automatically by the laws of demand and supply.

We do not lay the blame on municipal and local authorities who are in the unhappy position of having to supply the means by which Parliamentary Acts are to be carried out. The burden of the rates is not the



SIGTIMA ON THE MALAR, SWEDEN.

outcome in most cases of a local desire to spend, but of the multitude of legal measures which are turned out at Westminster, and which chiefly owe their inception to the desire of bodies of cranky, if well meaning people, to make a name for themselves in the House of Commons. That body would do well for the nation if its activities took the form of repealing and simplifying Acts, instead of passing fresh ones. If it did so, we should soon begin to find some relief from excessive taxation.

As things are, it would hardly surprise us if some enthusiast proposed and found support for a most expensive system of specialised education aiming at eradicating murderous tendencies in mankind in spite of the proved facts that the almost complete certainty of detection, coupled with the institution of capital punishment, has reduced the crime of murder to insignificant proportions, when compared with the population of the country.

It is, in a word, not grandmotherly legislation that we want in the affairs of life, so much as the certainty that those who clearly offend certain standards of conduct should not escape punishment. If the motorist who caused an accident, the builder on whose work some preventable fatality occurred, the architect who designed an unsafe building, were punished by law with the extremest rigour, we should soon have to record fewer misadventures.

The multiplicity of regulations affecting the safety and well-being of the public have another dangerous effect—that of destroying the sense of personal responsibility, which is one of the most precious and valuable assets from the standpoint of the community. As it is, we are training up a people who will have little more than the sense of responsibility possessed by children in a carefully governed and administered nursery, with the difference that it is impossible to found and administer a nursery for the whole nation.

We believe that differences of opinion between Capital and Labour cannot well be settled otherwise than by direct agreement between the parties concerned and that no government, however powerful and well-meaning, can act as a mediator between the



HOUSE AT STOCKHOLM.

protagonists without injury to its reputation and interests. Its function should be simply to prevent either of the parties from breaking the laws of the land, and to punish either for so doing.

We believe that many architects are a little swayed by the tendency to look with lenient eyes on the increase of officialdom, because every increase brings with it the necessity for new buildings and the enlargement of existing ones. But, as all these good things have ultimately to be paid for by the community in the form of taxation, which impoverishes the average man, it is clear that he will have a smaller surplus to expend on his wants, which often include building. It is also clear that it is easy to carry out State work by government architects, so that the architect's special interests must clearly be on the side of national economy rather than that of governmental expenditure. The pressure of taxation at the present rates on everyone, including those belonging to our own profession, together with the negative results arising out of excessive regulation, are reasons for emphasising the importance of this aspect of affairs, even in a journal devoted to the technical interests of the architectural profession.

(Photographs are by Eric Steiger, Architect, St. Gall, Switzerland.)

Our Illustrations.

QUARTER-INCH MODEL OF EAGLE STAR AND BRITISH DOMINION INSURANCE COMPANY'S PREMISES.
MESSRS. GUNTON & GUNTON, Architects.

A PAIR OF HOUSES AT MILL HILL. A. J. HEALEY, Architect.

36 ALBERT ROAD, REGENTS PARK, LONDON. MESSRS. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

PROPOSED BUNGALOW, CAMBERLEY, SURREY. J. WONTNER SMITH, Architect.

A Pair of Houses at Mill Hill.

The pair of houses (see inset plate) will stand at the ample bend of Uphill Road where several broad spreading oaks still retain the repose and dignity of the passing countryside.

The interest of the design lies in the attempt to combine the respect due to the nature of the site with the practical requirements of houses to be built to sell.

The dual aspect of the problem has been met by the choice of a semi-detached type standing well back on the site, so saving the old oak trees and gaining a feeling of unity and space—which two separate houses close together would have lost.

The actual design adopted has enabled two houses of serviceable accommodation and equipment (four bedrooms, two reception rooms, offices and garage) to be brought together into a homogeneous whole, having a form and

skyline enabling good traditional English domestic treatment to be adopted.

The materials selected being multicoloured red brick, laid herringbone-wise where half timber is employed, plain timber of ample scantling for the porch and other constructional use and blended sand faced tiles with bonnet hips for roofing.

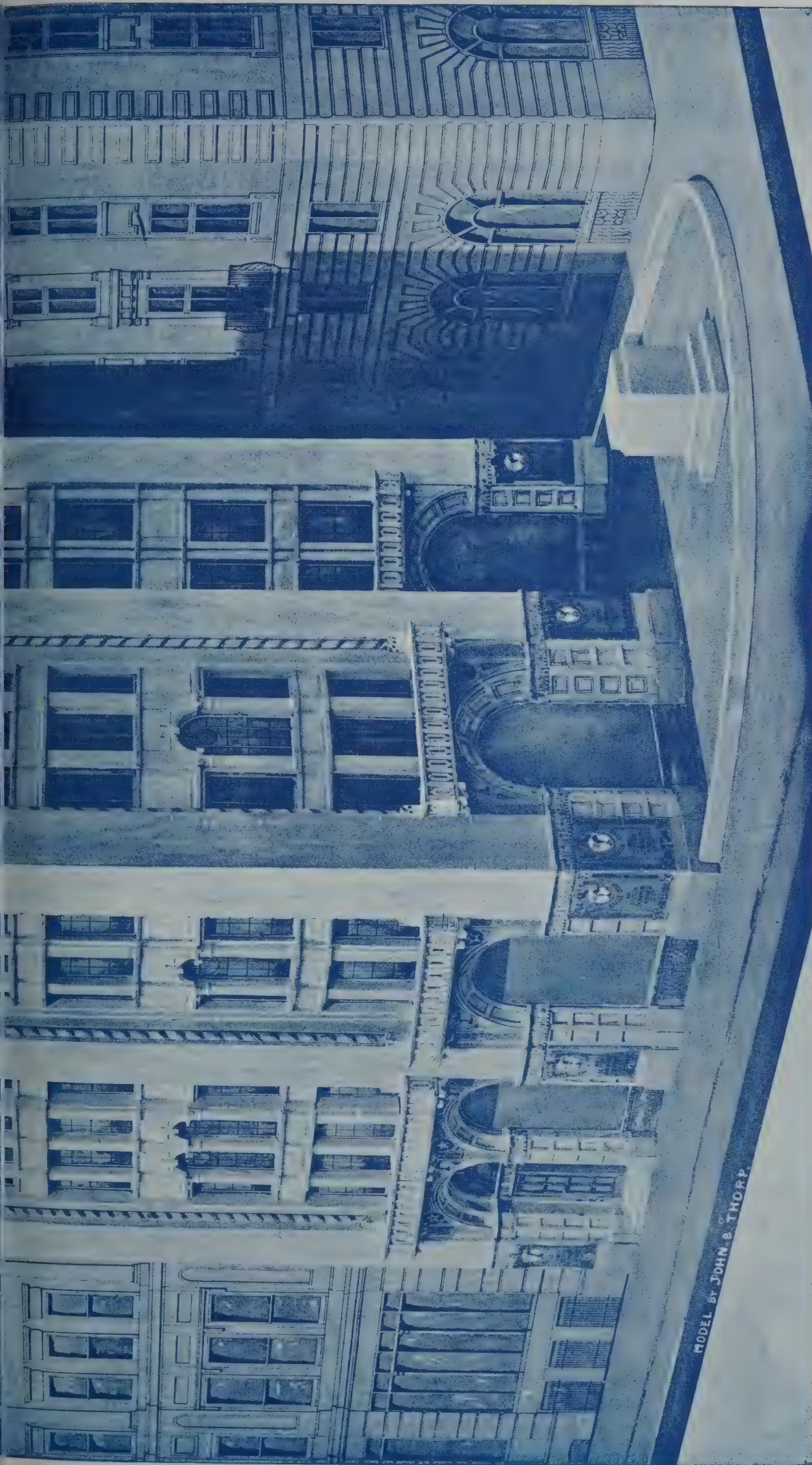
Descending to details, independent hot water and gas cooking are arranged for, while the grates in principal rooms will have rustless metal fronts, a novel labour saving feature.

As the owner is building by direct labour there is no contractor but it is noteworthy that hotwater and plumbing are in the hands of Messrs. Wm. Freer of London and Leicester, while all the baths and fire places are supplied by Messrs. Fred Hodge, of Holloway, the supervision resting in the hands of the architect, Mr. A. J. Healey, of 9 Grays Inn Square.

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THE ARCHITECT, OCTOBER 2nd, 1925.





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QUARTER-INCH SCALE MODEL OF EAGLE STAR & BRITISH DOMINION INSURANCE CO'S. PREMISES.

GUNTON & GUNTON, ARCHITECTS.

MODEL BY JOHN B. THORP, LONDON.

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A PAIR OF HUS
A. J. HALE

OBER 2nd, 1925.



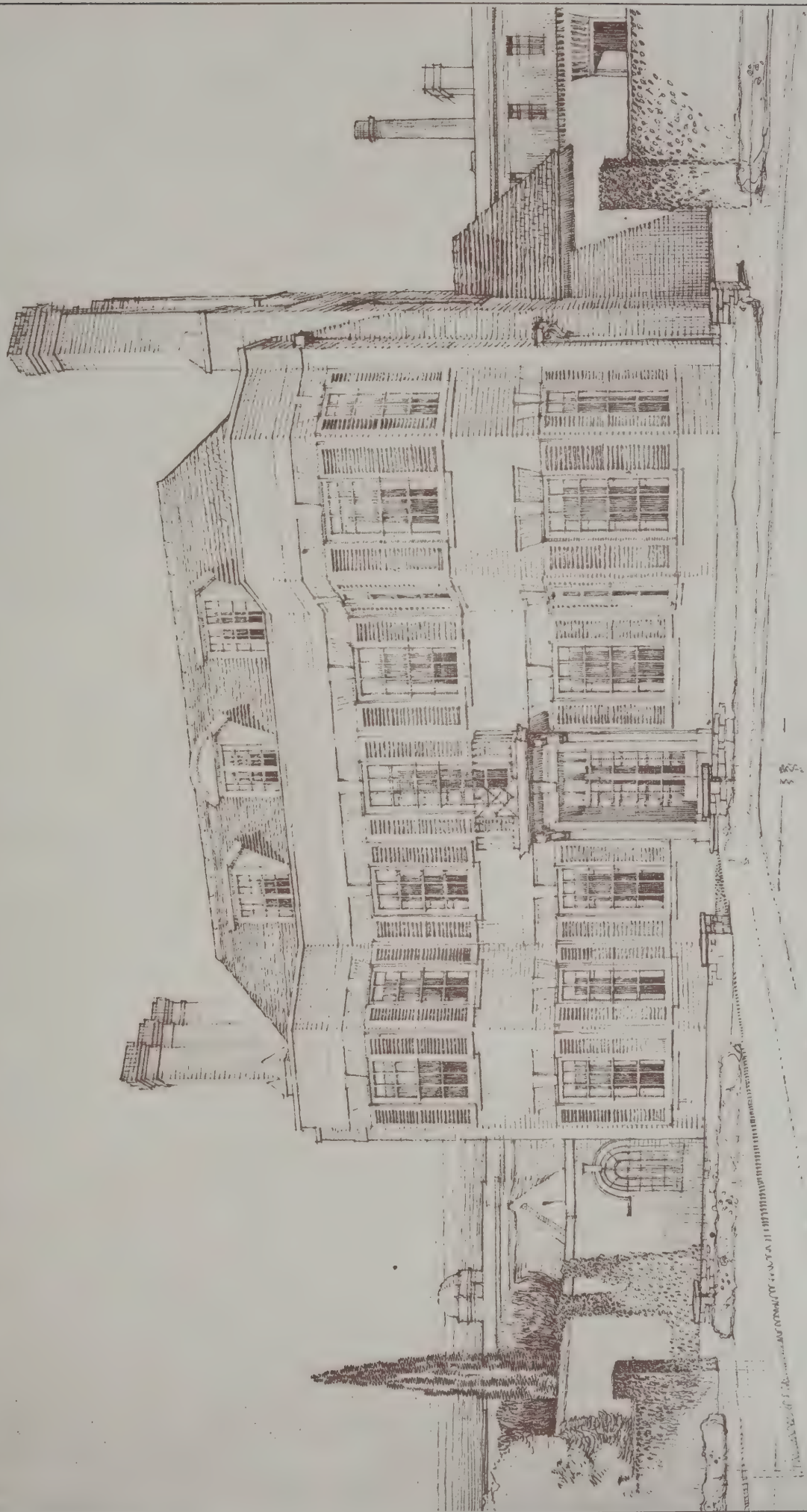
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MILL HILL.

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36 ALBERT ROAD. REGENTS PARK.



NICHOLLS & HUGHES.
ARCHITECTS. 1925.

F.C. ROBSON. DEL. 1925.

36, ALBERT ROAD, REGENTS PARK, LONDON.

NICHOLLS & HUGHES, ARCHITECTS.

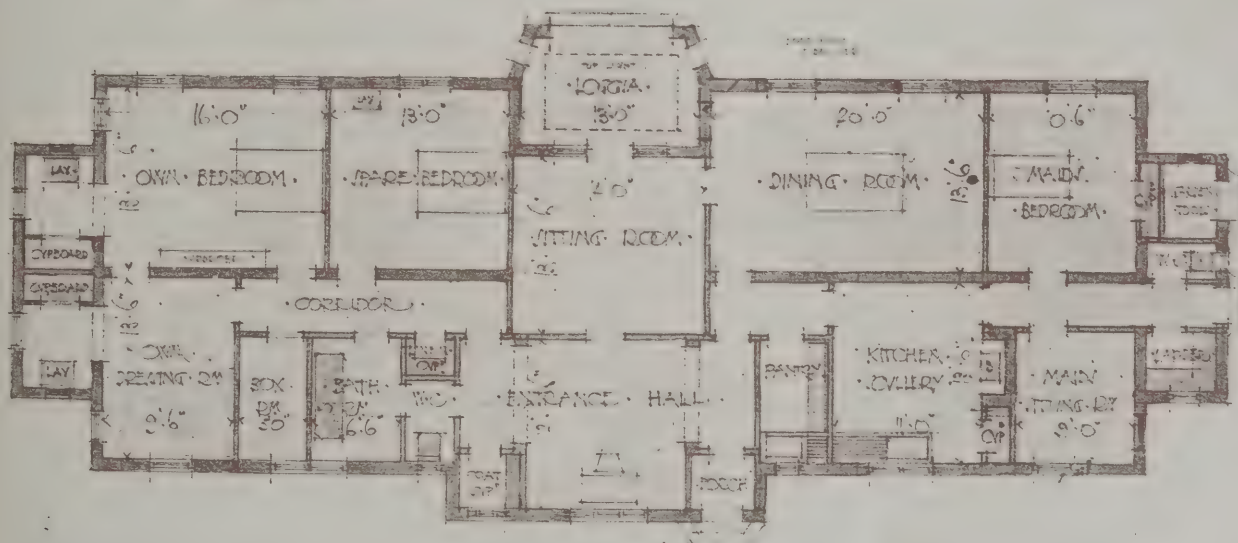
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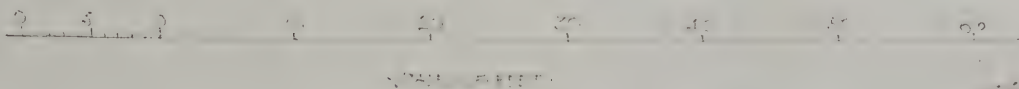
PROPOSED BUNGALOW, CAMBERLEY, SURREY.
FOR J. B. GIBB, ESQ.



PROPOSED BUNGALOW, CAMBERLEY, SURREY.
FOR J. B. GIBB, ESQ.



PLAN.



INK PHOTO BY W. H. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON - ENGL.

PROPOSED BUNGALOW, CAMBERLEY, SURREY

C. WONTNER SMITH, ARCHITECT.

DRAWING BY C. WONTNER SMITH.

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Notes and Comments.

Bought by America.

The remaining portions of Warwick Priory have been sold at what is described as a "highly satisfactory figure" to an American and are to be taken down and transported stone by stone to America for rebuilding there. The portion so dealt with includes the Saxon wing, the sixteenth century part with a stone front and the Georgian wing.

It was pointed out in the Emergency Committee's report that the secession of the two important societies from the rest of the industry would seriously affect the wages and conditions of the seceding societies and an appeal is to be made to secure solidarity. In the words of the "Herald" the employers' attack could only be met by such united action.

The Building Operatives' Federation has condemned the



DOORWAY IN POOLE.



DOORWAY IN POOLE.

Such transactions as this are pure vandalism and do not reflect credit on either the purchaser or seller. The seller is, for money, parting with a building of historic associations here and nowhere else. The purchaser does an even more foolish thing. He spends his money on securing the re-erection of a building in a locality in which it has no association or connection. The action, in a word, shows greed on the part of the seller and vanity, ostentation and bad breeding on that of the purchaser.

Labour Difficulties.

According to the "Herald" the building trade operatives are by no means happy about the secession of the plasterers, bricklayers and masons from the operatives' association.

action of the union of Woodcutting Machinists in permitting its members to prepare woodwork for Weir houses. The union has apparently told its members that they must do no work to be used in Weir houses, but the loose end is that such work is often in the saw-milling branch prepared for stock, after which it may be sold from stock to any purchaser. All of which goes to prove that the new labour tyranny has its own domestic difficulties!

Poole.

Old Poole is full of many fine examples of Georgian architecture; the illustrations are reproduced from photos by H. W. Martin-Kaye.



DOORWAY IN POOLE.



PENSIONS OFFICE, POOLE.

An Old Cotswold Town—Burford.

By Ruth Cobb.



WESTHALL MANOR HOUSE. From a pencil drawing by RUTH COBB.



ARCHWAY AT BURFORD.

Out of the lower slopes of the Cotswold Hills came the deep cream-coloured stone, now turned grey with age with which the houses and cottages of the villages and towns on the hillsides were built.

They built well in the Middle Ages. Solid houses, with slab roofs, with barns and outhouses of the same stone. Many of these beautiful barns with outside stairs are still in use to-day. This part of the Cotswolds was once a wealthy district, the centre of the wool trade. The streets in the towns were wide, to allow of flocks of black-faced sheep to pass along. It was in such towns as Northleach and Burford that the wealthier wool merchants lived. Traders came there from London and even from Belgium and France, until the export of wool was stopped. We know somewhat of the appearance of these wool merchants from the memorial brasses in the fine churches that they built with some of their wealth.

There they are seen in their long furred gowns, standing beside their wives, their feet resting on a woolly sheep, while below are the smaller figures of their numerous sons and daughters.

Tombs of the wool merchants are to be seen also outside in the churchyards. They are of unusual shape. The great stone roll on the top is said to represent a bale of wool—the design, the marks of the cords with which the wool was tied.

Burford, to-day, has altered very little since the sixteenth century and trouble is being taken to keep the old houses in repair and where necessary to restore them in their original shape. It is six miles from a railway station and its remoteness adds to its charm. Burford was a well-known spot, long before the time of the wool merchant. There are traces of prehistoric camps on the hill-tops round about.

The name Burford, is probably derived from words meaning, "a ford, with a defensive enclosure." It stood on the track from the kingdom of Mercia into Wessex, and



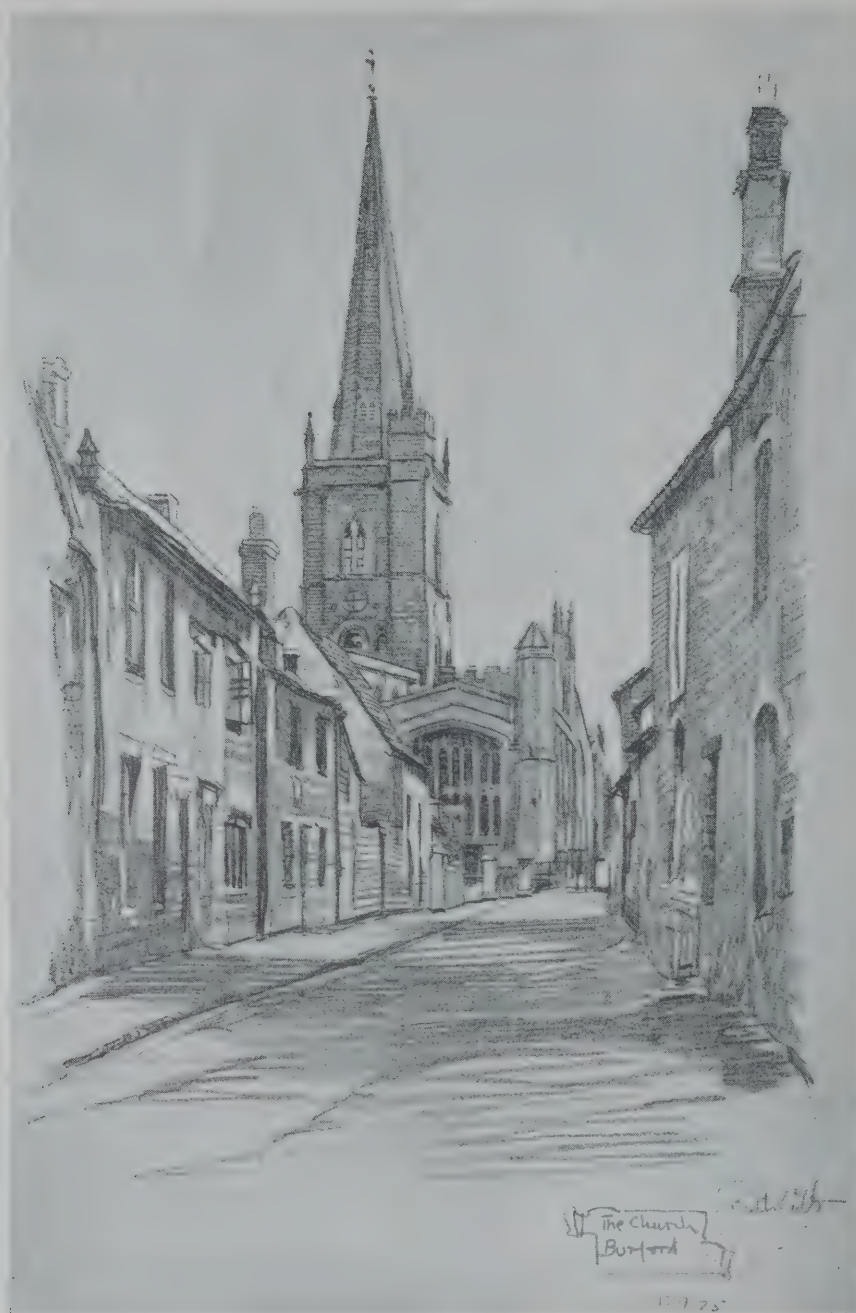
THE TOLSEY HOUSE AND CLOCK, BURFORD.

Sketches by RUTH COBB.



HIGH STREET, BURFORD.

"AN OLD COTSWOLD TOWN."



the ford over the river Windrush was probably much contested, as there was constant warfare between the various tribes in Saxon times. It is known that a big battle took place there in 752 A.D. and part of the hill-side above Sheep Street, where there is evidence from remains that have been dug up that it was fought, is still known as Battle Edge.

The first Burford was built on the flat land at the river's side. The houses would have been simple dwellings of wattle, but gradually as the place spread towards the hill, more substantial buildings would be wanted. A use was found for the stone out of the hills and at first the bottom part of the houses only were built of it, while the top was of plaster and wooden beams. One or two houses of this type still exist.

As Burford became prosperous, it spread still further, right up the hill towards the Manor House, which is believed to have stood right at the top, on the site of the present Berry Barn Farm.

The town had a municipal life of its own, for then it proudly possessed a mayor and corporation, now they are extinct. It began to build its houses entirely of stone blocks with slabs for the roof. They were substantial houses of one storey with small windows in the roof above. There was generally an archway leading from the roadway into a passage that ran right through the house. In the middle of this passage were the doors that led into the living parts

of the house. These passages were built for the pack horses laden with wool to pass along on their way to the stables and stores houses that were built out at the back.

A great many of these archways are to be seen in the High Street, with dates upon them carved in the sixteenth century. The stables, not altered at all, are still in use, but as cottages for the poorer townfolk. Looking through the archway the view is exceptionally picturesque and much sought for by artists, but as dwellings these buildings are most undesirable.

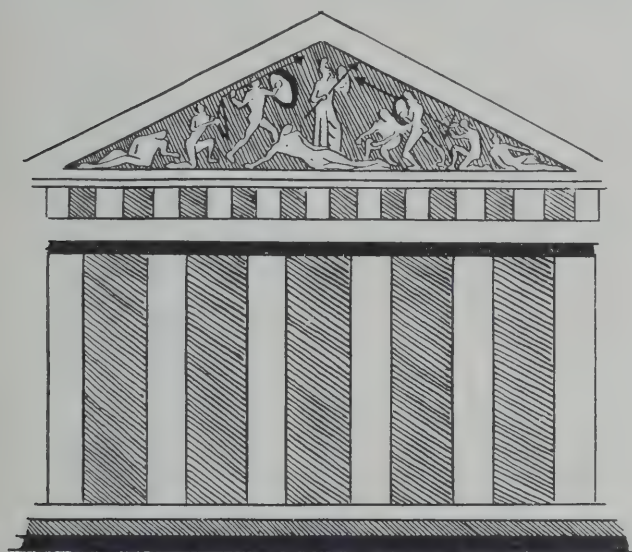
The Tolsey House is one of the oldest buildings left; here the people paid their toll to the Lord of the Manor; it has been much altered, the space between the stone pillars having been filled in. Opposite stood the village cross. Many English kings and queens have visited Burford. Charles I after his dash from Oxford slept at the "George Inn," the entrance to which is quite unchanged.

Burford Church stands near the river, it is a fine building with its tall spire and seven chapels and has many interesting tombs and quaint details. In the time of Oliver Cromwell there was a rising of some men who were known as "The Levellers." They wished for equality with regard to eligibility to hold office. The insurrection was quickly suppressed by Cromwell himself and 400 men surrendered at Burford. They were imprisoned in the Church for three days. On the edge of the font roughly carved can be seen the words "Anthony Sedley. Prisoner, 1649."

Colour in Architecture.

By a Correspondent.

This is indeed an old and controversial question, and one which has received a great deal of attention in the past; yet it remains as alive and fresh to-day as it was twenty-two hundred or two thousand years ago. Since the war it has become even more important, and this for many reasons. The great increase of concrete and cheap brick work in housing schemes has called for the use of plastering instead of a good brick or stone surface, and to avoid a wearisome monotony many architects are using colour in more or less degree. It is very interesting to see how much character and life can be given to even quite a plain group of houses, by the use of a little simple colour wash, confined, perhaps, to an eaves course or plinth, when used in connection with, say, a cream or grey wall. This is one aspect of the question that occurs to me as I write, and one could instance many others. If one goes back to olden times in England, one finds a very strong tradition of colour in buildings up to the time of, say, the eighteenth century, in



VALUES BROUGHT OUT BY COLOUR.

both external and internal use. We know that the Normans used it in church, castle and monastery, and although we know little enough of Saxon detail, yet there is considerable evidence to suggest that colour was freely used in pre-Norman times. There is no doubt at all of this, in the parts of the country where the Celtic tradition survived, as there is quite sufficient evidence from then, both direct and inferred, to tell us that the Celts were great lovers of colour. Throughout the whole of the Gothic period we know that colour was very largely used in ecclesiastical buildings, in Grange, and Manor and Hall. Panelling, even when of oak, was colour-washed as a general rule, up to about the middle of the seventeenth century, and it was at the time of the Restoration that the fashion of leaving it plain came into vogue. It was when the English classic period, after the Renaissance had taken a firm hold of the traditional manor, which had culminated in what we call Tudor work, had died out, came the practice of mono-chrome decoration. It is, of course, now a commonplace to say that colour was used freely by the Greeks and Romans. Every first year student knows this, but it was not at all realised by the seventeenth century students of Roman work. The remains that they had studied in Italy were, naturally enough, without their original colour, which had long since worn away, and the result was an existence of mono-chrome architecture, as mono-chrome treatment, and a subsequent general adherence to this practice. This tradition survived up to recent times, and was applied generally to all buildings, classic or otherwise, throughout the period of the nineteenth century. Colour was not even suspect, it was ignored, and was thought to be Oriental, even vulgar. Decent designers did not use it. Such is the fashion of the time.

When the classical revival came into being, roughly speaking, about a hundred years ago, or rather when it

became a force in British architecture, for it had really started a long time before that date, the question of colour as used by the Romans, more especially perhaps by the Greeks, did, in fact, receive some attention. For various reasons, however, not very easy to fathom, the theory of a mono-chrome classic art held good until very much later, say about thirty or forty years ago. Those of that time who had made a special study of the subject had begun to realise that the ancients had really employed colour very freely, but even with this knowledge few people were found bold enough to break away from the traditional methods of the Renaissance, and apply colour, more especially to stone. Since then colour has been admitted, although rather reluctantly, into buildings, even if it is only by the use of two or more contrasting stones in juxtaposition. Terra cotta, too, that humble handmaid of architects, and too often abused by those who ought to know better, has made rapid strides, and although a lot of shocking bad work has been done in this material, that is no argument against its more general use, especially in cities. Indeed, in many respects a good coloured earthenware surface, easily cleaned, and not affected by the atmosphere, has a very great deal to recommend it.

Let me revert for a moment to the use of colour in the ancient architectures. Even now people will often point out the dignity of a Doric temple, assuming that its single colour emphasises the importance of the main lines. But we know that the ornament, and at the same time the plain surfaces on such building were originally coloured in rich reds, blues, browns, greens, and purples. The builders did not design in terms of mono-tone. On the contrary, they designed for the use of gaily tinted surfaces, carefully applied in relation to the form. The modern, Western, less coloured buildings of classic design are surely lifeless things compared with their parents on the Mediterranean. It would be a bold, and indeed an arrogant, man who would assert that the designers of the Renaissance knew better than these who evolved the original styles.

We are, I think, getting more logical than were architects of a few generations back. I can hardly imagine the designer of forty or fifty years ago putting a red-tiled roof on a building like the London County Council Hall to take the first instance that comes into my head. It does seem as if the whole question wants taking up afresh in the schools and architectural societies.

About the most interesting writer on the subject is probably Chabert, and he is not half as well known as he should be, especially amongst students and younger men. It seems to me we entirely fail to grasp the significance of the sculptured tympanums of Greece, and can have but little appreciation of what effect the artist intended to produce, unless we visualise the original bold colouring which was there. As far as research has gone, and it has made great strides in these matters of recent years, the whole



THE MONOCHROME TREATMENT.



DETAIL SHOWING COLOUR IN CONTRAST TO THE MONOCHROME TREATMENT.

evidence tends to show that all the old peoples used masses of colour on the outside of their buildings. Studies of the buildings of China, India and the Mediterranean civilisation and of those remote and mysterious people on the Pacific slope of South America, all tell the same tale. In the Middle Ages traditional natural architecture all over Northern Europe was enlivened by gay colour. In England the canal boat is a survival of what was probably the common form of colour on wooden houses, of, at any rate, the late Gothic period, if indeed it is not a survival from much earlier times. Any one who has travelled in Italy and Germany cannot have failed to notice the brightly painted sun dials of stone or wood, which are so common a feature in certain districts of both these countries. Painted stone dials exist in England to-day which date from the sixteenth or early seventeenth century, and there is little doubt that most of these dials were originally painted, although such a view must be based more on inference than on actual proof. Such detailed instances could be multiplied indefinitely. The notion that stone must not be coloured is entirely modern, and had its origin in the wrong conception of classic architecture during the early period of the Renaissance.

Now, kindly critic, if you have come thus far with me, do not be impatient. I do not suggest that everything the ancients did in architecture was all right, and that everything we do is all wrong. On the contrary, we do many things better than the Romans or the master masons of the thirteenth century. I do not suggest that our energetic young architects should paint the town red. I do not suggest that they should even paint it pink, symbolical, perhaps, of the dawn of a new day. Neither do I propose that anyone should get a brush and some pots of paint, and a ladder, and draw nice bands across our important buildings, or tint their statuary in purple and gold. I have no such revolutionary wish. It does seem to me, however, that we have followed what is possibly a wrong road, very likely a cul-de-sac, and that we should try to get back again on to the main line of advance. This line of advance is by evolution and not revolution, and we require to make a determined effort to be logical, and to design and decorate in accordance with the needs and social conditions of modern civilisation.

Now, there is plenty of evidence that colour is needed in our cities at the present time. The bright splashes made by the London buses is an example, and very pleasant they are to the eye, taken in the mass. The gay colouring of posters, the brilliant tint of women's clothes, all show that a desire for colour exists. Even men's clothes, for the last hundred years of drab and sober hues, have brightened up very considerably with recent years, and a great improvement this is to the general effect of a crowd. In the cities of to-day the drabest things are its buildings. The Romans fully realised this need for colour in their cities. It is true that little remains externally, but from what we know from Pompeii and Herculanean, there is no doubt of the main fact. It may be argued that Rome had no smoke problem, and that there were no chemicals in the atmosphere in Italy of ancient time, as there are in modern towns, and that colour therefore lasted better than it would in Western Europe to-day. It may also be urged that the climate of Rome was sunny and warm, and more suitable to colour than, say, London or Leeds, with fogs and mists. The first of these arguments does not really hold water. On the contrary, it is an additional reason for our tackling the smoke nuisance. In any case, there is

strong public feeling on the subject of pollution at present, and there is no doubt that drastic legislation on the subject will be introduced in the very near future. As regards the question of sunshine, this is, I think, greatly overstressed. It is, of course, a commonplace that certain combinations of bright colour, pleasant enough in India or Persia, would look tawdry and possibly even vulgar in Bloomsbury or Princes Street. No person of taste would attempt to apply such colour to clothes in these islands, nor would they apply the colour used in the buildings of India to those of the British Isles. Considerable modification would be required. If a complete restoration of a fourteenth century grange was possible, I have no doubt that its colours would be found to harmonise perfectly, and the tones to blend pleasantly with the landscape in which it was situated. People whose buildings fitted so well into the soil would be very unlikely to have gone wrong in colour. Experience would show what terms were suitable for various parts, as has always been the case where a traditional architecture has developed on its own lines, and where no exotic introduction has taken place. Again, the difference in the amount of sunshine received by Rome and a city like Plymouth or Bournemouth, towns fairly free from smoke, is not nearly so great as is superficially supposed. Rome gets plenty of dull days, Plymouth plenty of sunny ones, and a comparison of the hours of sunshine received by each during the year does not show any very great difference. This argument of grey skies and lack of sun being factors which preclude colour is not sound. There is no such radical difference between these islands and Italy as to call for any wide divergence of principle, but rather only modification of detail.

A good many towns in England contain buildings which have coloured friezes more or less in the style of the Della Robbias, which, to my mind, are very successful. One may or may not like a glazed earthenware as a facing material, but considered purely in the nature of colour, much of this work is very effective. There is, of course, one great difficulty in such decoration which is that it is likely to clash with that of its neighbours, but under our present system of haphazard street building, this difficulty is really not more intense than is the clashing of stone and brick, and general detail that takes place in the normal street to-day. Not indeed until the street is regarded as the unit will this horrible defect of our modern architecture disappear. This lack of good manners, as it has been termed rather aptly in a recent book, has spoilt many good old streets in all our cities. Regent Street is about the last to go, and one can imagine Nash's ghost pacing that historic thoroughfare and wringing its hands at the vandalism of modern times, which has dealt such a blow to its fine and dignified proportions.

I am afraid the question of street architecture at the present time is a pretty hopeless one. Perhaps in a decade or two, when town planning is more understood and its influence has become more real, as we hope it will, the civic authorities, architects, and other designers will realise the necessity for uniformity of street elevations, and for one main design to cover a street, or at least that portion of it which is an architectural unit. Under such control a bright and well thought out colour scheme would be an easy matter, and have a far greater hope of success than it could under the present individualised system.

It is indeed rather to the isolated group of buildings that one can look for improvement in colour in the immediate future. I recollect many years ago hearing a lecture by a very distinguished scholar and recognised authority on such matters. He advocated the use of colour on modern buildings very strongly, but deplored the fashion of painting on plaster. I could never see, nor can I see now, why architects and persons of what is usually called good taste, have so generally taken this view. To my mind, coloured stucco is an excellent method of treating an exterior. I can see nothing bad in it either constructionally, or artistically, but stucco must be dealt with honestly as stucco. If, indeed, it imitates stone, then it does become shoddy and vulgar. It is this fault of its use in the Victorian period

which has given it a bad name. I have recently spent some little time in Penzance, and seen large numbers of sedate, little old-fashioned squares and terraces dating from about the Adam period. The houses in these are for the most part covered in stucco, and are usually painted in two shades, sometimes three, the architraves and strings often being picked out in cream on a main ground of ochre or buff. The wood work, balconies, porches, etc., for the most part are dark green. The whole effect is of an exceedingly pleasant nature. The rain fall here is, of course, very heavy, and the wind robust, and these houses are usually built of granite rubble of a rather porous quality. Their stucco skins have preserved them extremely well, and most of them look good enough for another hundred years.

A great deal of stone, brick and concrete blocks is used in building, which are by no means waterproof, and apart from the decorative side, painting would greatly help in

such cases. I do not know that the painting of a stone building all over its surface is desirable, and it would certainly be costly, but it might help toward the solution where the trouble of porosity has to be overcome. This, of course, is rather a side show, and does not affect the main point, which is that there is a demand for more colour in building, and it is really the tyranny of habit which forbids its use. The whole question is one which should receive more attention in the younger men, especially those of the schools, and ideas should be thrashed out with the aid of painters and sculptors, as I have no doubt they were in classic times, and in mediæval Europe. Monumental architecture has received a great impetus in the last decade or two. Domestic work of to-day is on a higher plane than it has attained for a hundred years. Colour, however, is still a neglected child of architects, and until we take it more seriously our work must be lacking in the full vigour of the best of ancient days.

The Extension of Architectural Metaphor.

By Mrs. K. Esdaile.

It cannot be doubted that the use of terms describing certain architectural features lies itself in the domain of literature. What was the triglyph, even in classical days, but a metaphor or symbol of a long-dead usage, the stone substitute for the ends of wooden beams once inevitable but rendered unnecessary by later architectural developments? The question before us is, however, whether the scanty use of architectural phrases to express the perception of some unsuspected parallel might not be further developed, as other arts have developed the same thing, in common speech.

Let us take for a beginning two actual instances contributed by a small boy of six, whose elder brother and chief object of devotion is consumed by an almost morbid passion for architecture. A cat curled up in her box with a couple of six-day-old kittens might not seem a probable subject for an architectural metaphor, but when the small boy in question burst into the room with a request that the elder would come and see the black kitten crawling round pussy's apse it was impossible not to see the delightful justice of the phrase as applied to the rounded portion of the cat's back. A few hours later came a request that the sounding board of the nursery lamp (this is no lordly region of electric light) should be replaced because it had just tumbled off. Was ever an apter description of the little talc object with its supporting stem on one side only? Why had one never thought of it?

The surprise and amusement caused by such phrases is probably due to the undoubted fact that architectural terms have not been coined into metaphor to the extent familiar in metaphors or similes derived from other arts. Keystone has its non-literal use; corner-stone and coping-stone we may meet in every newspaper, the arch of an eyebrow in any novel. But—and the point is curious—all are ancient terms familiar to builders' labourers even, and so common as to have acquired a popular as well as a technical appeal. The only metaphor derived from recent architecture which the present writer at least can suggest is the term bow window as applied to the human figure, and it is interesting to note that it retains its original significance of an addition, since bow windows in our older literature are always additions to the original structure.

It is a humiliating confession to make, but the Mistress Art has certainly contributed far less than its sisters to the enrichment of our language. The keynote, setting the tune, touching a common chord, in a minor key—the phrases derived from music—leap to the memory. As for art, using the word in the narrower sense of painting, its similes and metaphors are endless. Laying it on thick—the very phrase recalls the slabs of dark paint and megilp beloved of the early nineteenth century, and followed by the cracking of its pictures. Touching in lightly, sketching—in the applied sense of the word—drawing a vivid

portrait, outlining a subject or a person, putting the finishing touch; one could go on for ever. As for literature, almost every great author has contributed his own adjective, and when we speak of writing a man down or up, the flow of inspiration, one iota, one jot or tittle, coming to a full stop, rounding off a period, and so forth, our very words are a tribute to the power of language to recoin itself in phrases which it has originated.

Now the use of metaphor or simile is usually unconscious; our language is full of both, and we hardly notice their origin. But once upon a time all were new, and by their appropriateness became, like many quotations, embodied in common speech. Such embodiment is constantly going on, to the enrichment of our tongue. Why should not architecture contribute her share to the process? Probably because, as architects know to their cost, the public is not enough awake to the importance of the subject to take in its terminology or to apply that terminology to a familiar object such as the bow window aforesaid. One cannot therefore predicate a successful future for the apse of a curled up cat or the sounding board of a lamp, but the writer at least will never order a talc for another lamp without recalling the exquisite incongruity of the new simile, the only really convincing comparison in existence, as one sees on thinking it over. Nothing, of course, can be done about it. The power of seeing analogies, of suggesting new metaphors, grows dim in most of us as time goes on. We all notice the freshness of a child's ideas and ways of expressing itself; and a metaphor, to be acceptable, must be both obvious and convincing once it is heard. But there are not many children, and not too many grown-up people, who think in terms of architecture. Take a simple instance of the fact. Our great architects, unlike our great writers, have not given their names to styles. We do not talk of Jonesian as we talk of Shakespearean, and though Palladio and Vitruvius have their adjectives, this is rather on the ground that other nations had them first. Wrenian, Vanbrughish, Bentleysque are yet to seek. The future may give us Scottian to describe the style of Liverpool Cathedral, but the present has not done so; and though Elizabethan poets hunted earth and heaven for similes to celebrate their ladies, the lover who talked of the forehead as a pediment, or the mouth as the *portecochère* through which sweet words issued, is yet to be discovered, though the apse of a curled up cat and the sounding board above a lamp are at least promising essays in the Elizabethan manner.

But perhaps, after all, we need not despair. The wisest and most useful of proverbs, Rome was not built in a day, is architectural in inspiration; and proverbs are the quintessence of common wisdom whose truth is universally accepted. So the Mistress Art has her revenge upon her sisters after all.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

(Extracts from a paper on "Modern Systems of Electrical Installation Work; Their Use and Misuse" (being a lecture given by Mr. Frederic H. Taylor, Assoc. M. Inst. E. E., Assoc. M. Inst. M. E., before the Incorporated Clerks of Works Association of Great Britain at the Hall of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters.)

The electrical installation of a modern building is an item in its equipment which calls for every possible care both in the design and the carrying out—if efficiency and reasonable safety are to result, and although much may depend on the systems selected even more may depend upon its application. In using the word "systems" I refer particularly to the installing of the actual conductors. The history of the subject is not without interest. In the early eighties conductors were commonly fixed to the surface of wall or ceiling by cleats, without protection from mechanical or other injury. Next in order came wood casing with its faithful regard for always maintaining a wood separation between wires of opposite polarity. The advantage of having a more mechanical and fireproof protection suggested the use of ordinary wrought iron barrel or gas pipe, on which system many installations were put down. Next in order probably came the original "Bathurst conduit," consisting of a compressed paper tube with brass socketed ends. From those somewhat experimental days up to the present time practice, with but little exception, has been steadily in the direction of (a) metal pipe systems and (b) metal cased wire systems. The systems which I propose to refer to particularly to-night are:—Slip Socket Conduit, Screwed Conduit, Metal Cased Wire.

Slip Socket.—On this system I feel that little can be said in its favour unless it be cheapness in first cost. Its principle points of disadvantage are:—

(1) Any attempt at bending an open seam tube, such as this is, can only result in either opening or crushing in of the edges. (2) Waterproofing is obviously impossible. (3) Earthing of this system is only possible by the use of one or other of the several "continuity grip fittings." In this connection it may be noted that the Regulations of the Institution of Electrical Engineers state that:—"Plain slip sockets do not comply with the above conditions, some form of screwed or grip joint, which will give ample and permanent electrical conductivity and mechanical rigidity throughout, being necessary." The "above conditions" referred to in this note are the conditions relating to screwed conduits. See p. 53, Rule 87.

In new buildings and in many old ones the wiring work is required to be concealed under the surface of the plaster work. Could anything be worse in such cases than the use of an open jointed tube if dampness and moisture are to be excluded? and yet this is a practice of everyday occurrence. One has even seen slip socket conduit run along the outside of the wall of a building, and in one instance under the cart road of a factory.

Screwed Conduit.—The patterns of screwed conduit in use are the brazed, the welded and the solid drawn or seamless. These are stated in order of cost and likewise also in order of merit. The solid drawn, though the most expensive, is the most satisfactory, being free from the possibility of internal burrs or roughnesses. It is sometimes urged that a screwed conduit system affords every chance of trouble from condensation. Personally I have found this suggestion more fanciful than real, given proper care and skill in selecting the positions for the runs. Doubtless there are a few places where, great and sudden changes of temperature prevailing, a screwed conduit system would not be advisable.

It is noteworthy that the most recent Regulations of the Institution of Electrical Engineers suggest ventilating outlets to allow of circulation of the air throughout the conduit. Page 52, Rule 87, XXI.

Conduit Fittings.—By this expression reference is made to bends, elbows, tees, draw-in or inspection boxes, etc. Solid bends, elbows or tees, are virtually prohibited and rarely used except in a slip socket conduit system, the "inspection" type of fitting being used in place thereof. A very inglorious exception, which came within my experience within the last two years, was that of a power job at 480 volts where the whole of the conduit work was carried out with solid elbows and tees. Happily I found the insulation test was fairly bad and the installation was taken out. Naturally one found that in many cases the wires supported the conduit fittings and prevented them dropping out. The wires themselves, when extracted, were tightly twisted around one another and sufficiently so for the insulation to be bruised, or cracked, and sometimes showing the actual copper conductor. The work had been duly accepted by the local authority supplying the current. That all conduit fittings should be of the "inspection" type is essential if good work is to be done. Bends or sets made up on the job to suit the

particular local conditions are of course, both necessary and permissible. In many cases a watertight system is desirable. Ordinary inspection fittings do not satisfy this condition, although often used to meet it. Fittings with machined joints are then necessary and can be obtained at but little extra cost.

Lock Nuts and Bushes.—The advantages of lock nuts are frequently ignored. These are essential where the conduit enters an iron box, such as a switch outlet, a distribution board or main switch or fuse box. The conduit entering by a clearance hole and lock nutted inside and out forms a good mechanical and electrical job. The bushing of all ends of pipe from which wires are to emerge is essential, though often ignored. The practice provides a smooth edge for the conductors to be drawn over and may save the use of a lock nut. The bushes now used are of brass.

Outlet Couplings are often required for switch or other points. These are quite good, but when allowed to be made up on the job by the wireman are liable to suffer from sharp cutting edges. On filed walls the conduit should be packed out. Fittings for this are shown.

An "All Iron" System.—Some engineers prefer what may be termed an "all iron" system—that is to say, iron-clad distributing boards are used in place of the more common teak cased pattern, and iron outlet boxes for all switches, ceiling roses or other fittings, the use of wood being thus everywhere avoided even to the wood fixing block. The practice has much to commend it from the fire risk point of view, and as regards meeting the conditions of metallic continuity and earthing it is of course ideal.

Method of Earthing.—A metal conduit (or the metal casing of a conductor) should be earthed by means of a good solid clip making as much contact as possible with the surface of the conduit or metal casing, this in turn being connected to a live water main or other selected earth by means of an earthing conductor of suitable section. The points to be considered therefore are (a) the earthing conductor; (b) the clips or connection at either end; and (c) the earth itself. The earthing conductor should be of a section suited to the current it may be called upon to carry, which may, of course, be the current of the largest conductor within the conduit. The most recent Institution rules prescribe that its section shall be not less than one half of that of the largest of the conductors to be protected, with a minimum size of 7/029, and the material used always to be copper. With regard to clips for connection at each end these should be of good mechanical and electrical design and visible. The earth connection is usually to a live water main, and where this is impossible an independent earth in the form of a buried copper plate has to be adopted.

Isolating.—Equally necessary as earthing would seem to be the isolating of all electric conduit work, etc., from gas pipes, girders, etc.—in fact, everything which is conducting excepting the selected earth connection. If this is not done it is impossible to properly test the earthing of the system, without which one has but little idea of the goodness or otherwise. If isolating be not adopted gas pipes or other non-electric work may become partially alive in the event of a fault developing.

Metal Cased Wire Systems.—For many years past various wiring systems have been devised, using a metal sheathed wire, intended to be fixed direct on the surface without further mechanical protection. The object in view has been the cheapening of the cost of wiring work by the eliminating of the screwed pipe. For such a system it is reasonably claimed that it is less obtrusive, takes up less room and involves less cutting away and making good. The conductors used are usually of circular section for single cables and flat for twin or three core and the sheathing in nearly all cases a special lead alloy. ("Stannos," the exception.) In some instances a metal cased wire system is the only one possible.

Bonding.—The bonding or connecting across of the sheathing of all conductors is a specially important point, probably the most important, and much ingenuity has been shown in this connection. Mr. Taylor emphasised his arguments by displaying and explaining some specimens of the principal part of the Henley Wiring System, and also that of Messrs. Callender, known as the "Kaleeco." He drew attention to where the external metal surface was not lead that the metal used (brass or copper) was invariably tinned. This, he said, was essential. Bonding of lead cased wires on to iron clad distribution boards. Examples of how this is best done were also shown.

Erection.—Care in the erection of any metal cased wire system is probably even more necessary than in a conduit system. The unpractised hand is liable to overlook the fact that lead is a soft and therefore vulnerable material. Injury is very easily caused by careless bending or in removing the lead sheath.

Correspondence.

"Signed Architecture."*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

SIR,—The anonymity of a building is one of those absurd conventions which has become so much of a fetish as to render it difficult (or at any rate unusual) for architects to rid themselves of it. Not that they do not possess the power so to do, for there is no law against such signature; in fact, we all doubtless know of some one or more buildings so treated. Nearly a century ago Edward Blore thus dealt with the works of his brain, though I doubt whether many would now regard them as worthy of identification. There are some houses at Brompton which bear his signature to this day. But also some modern architect here and there and now and again is found to disregard this silly convention. For how can it be otherwise than so regarded, when the signing of public buildings, chapels, etc., are recognised as fair quarry for the purpose?

The use of monomarks does not commend itself to me, but that is not of necessity a point in their disfavour. Let it be granted that there is something very compelling about a work of architecture being so recognisably some particular architect's design, as to render signing a work of supererogation; on the other hand, there is a vast amount of really good work, not so recognisable, and yet meriting identification by the seeker after information, though such seeker is assuredly not a member of the general public.—Faithfully yours,

ONE OF THE SEEKERS.

The Tragic Side of Things: The Restoration Fund.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

SIR,—The church was a fourteenth century one. (The vicar declared it was ninth.) He had just finished Matins in the empty church.

In a corner of the south aisle sat an artist sketching the rood screen, famous throughout the land for the beauty of its carving and colour.

The vicar, hurriedly closing the prayer book, walked hastily up the nave carrying a field glass. He climbed the steep circular stair of the noble fifteenth century tower, 120 feet high, and stepped out on to the lead roof. He scanned the distant waters of the Broads and espying a motor launch containing a party of tourists hurried down through the ringers' gallery to the nave floor and stood at the door of the south porch.

The party arrived. Americans doing Britain in seven days. "Come this way, please."

"The church was founded by St. Cuthbert in the ninth century."

"Here we have a fourteenth century font showing the seven sacraments. The finest fourteenth century font in England."

"On the left here, on the wall of south aisle, we have a thirteenth century painting of St. Christopher, the largest fresco of St. Christopher in the county. Note the fourteenth century poppy heads. This way, please."

"The reading desk, pre-Reformation, with 'God Save the King' in antique music on the back of the book board."

"The double hammer beam roof of the nave with the original colouring. You will note that several of the angels have fallen."

"Here we have the glory of the church, the rood screen."

"South Kensington offered £5,000 and a copy for this screen, but the Bishop refused. Note the beauty of the figure of St. Apollonia, the patron saint of housekeepers. Botticelli never did anything finer."

"The chancel, with original thatch roof and choir stalls, the finest outside of Lincoln."

"We are collecting to restore the chancel, introduce an organ, restore the east window, insert new glass, varnish the screen, retile the floor, introduce new altar, reredos, electric light, and put Cordilova on the walls."

"The heritors have placed the work of restoration in the hands of Mr. Michael Fitzmorris Davis, F.R.G.S., F.S.A., F.S.I., F.R.I.B.A., O.B.E., the eminent London restoration architect, whose Royal Academy perspective you see here on the right, to the left of the original priest's door."

"Ah, yes, the visitors' book. Here you are, signed yesterday by His Royal Highness Prince Julip Singa Poor and the South African millionaire, Sir Randal Ruddy Gore. Thank you so much. Thank you so much. Thank you so much."

As the tourists streamed through the south porch, the organist, who had just arrived to practice on the American organ, started to play the well known anthem, "Oh thou that tellest."

As the vicar passed the artist on the way to the vestry he stopped and jingling the silver in both hands, said: "Thirty shillings, not bad for one party."

And so the work of destruction goes on all over England.

"From all such, good Lord, deliver us."

In the afternoon the vicar went to the county town for a Presbytery meeting and his wife came into the church to flirt with the artist.

"From all such, good Lord, deliver us."

CETERA DESUNT.

Residential Qualifications.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

DEAR SIR,—It seems to me very illogical that any body of architects should feel that their local status should entitle them to the architectural work of the locality in which they practice and reside.

Every open architectural competition invites members of the profession to compete for work outside their own immediate locality.

To devote a lifetime to the special study of a definite class of buildings such as churches, theatres, swimming baths, etc., is in the future going to be of no use because, for obvious reasons, an architect cannot possess residential qualifications in every locality.

Specialists make many sacrifices. Much work that they could handle is never offered them owing to their known abilities in certain directions.

The ratepayer has an absolute right that his money should be spent in the very best way, and any consideration paid to local or other interests is obliged to curtail the chances of securing the absolute maximum value for the money to be spent.

The choice between holding a competition and appointing a recognised specialist is of course always a difficult one to decide. If the local talent is of a high order and open competition should wherever possible be organised, the recognised authority or specialist can always be appointed assessor to the competition. In this way his knowledge and experience are very actively brought into play by his drafting of the conditions of the competition, judging and assessing of his reasoned report.

Winners of important competitions have associated themselves with specialists or professionals of long experience and thus guaranteed the organisers and promoters against all possible risks.

And this latter method appears to me to be the fairest. Youth and inexperience can thus have an opportunity, and their unsuccessful effort can be made doubly successful by the aid of mature thought and practical experience.

ONE OF THE CROWD.

Many councils seem to lose sight of the fact that the employment of "direct labour," apart from needing supervision which must also be paid, frequently deprives a ratepayer of a contract to which he has some right to consider himself entitled. We are glad to see notices in the Press of local authorities passing plans for houses which are to be erected by private enterprise. Of late the number of such notices has greatly increased. Many of us have passed pleasant holidays in the country and not a few have had just cause to regret the inartistic appearance of the new houses which have been built by the various councils. Not only are the houses little short of downright ugly, but they have in many places been built in beautiful and charming surroundings, which, in consequence, have not been improved. Under the direction of private enterprise a certain speculative instinct is aroused and this results in some consideration being given to the artistic side of the whole question.

The Panelled Room at Hale Hall.



INTERIOR VIEW OF HALE HALL

Although Hale escaped recital in the Domesday Survey it was eight years later included with other adjoining districts as a contributory to one of the Norman Abbeys "one tenth—a tithe—of its cheese and butter, its poultry, calves, lambs and swine." In 1117 it was valued by its Royal owner at eight marks, its neighbour Liverpool attaining only to three.

In the reign of Edward I (1286) Adam de Hibernia was defendant in an action at law over three roods of land with the appurtenances at Hale, and after a series of lawsuits of similar purpose succeeded in leaving the Irelands' title

to the family estates secure at his death in 1317, at the Hutte, the ancient Manor House, which was the family house until the present Hale Hall was built. The history of Hale and the Irelands is unusually interesting and continuous, but the following incidents must here suffice. In 1297 Edward I, who still possessed one-third of Hale, granted a charter, most beautifully illuminated, and still preserved. In continuous line we find George (Fitz Thomas) de Ireland not only in command of the Queen's forces and active in the Spanish Armada times, but mentioned as one of the Lancashire gentlemen to whom Queen Elizabeth sent a letter of privy Seal requesting the loan of money. In 1603, as High Sheriff of Lancashire, John Ireland went forth to meet James I on his entrance to England and presented him with a loyal address congratulating him on his becoming King of England. Not only in Lancashire did the family flourish, but their offshoots were responsible for the building of the fine Hall at Lydiate and its unfinished church, another at Bewsey, and also at Shrewsbury, where the fine Ireland House still preserves their memory.

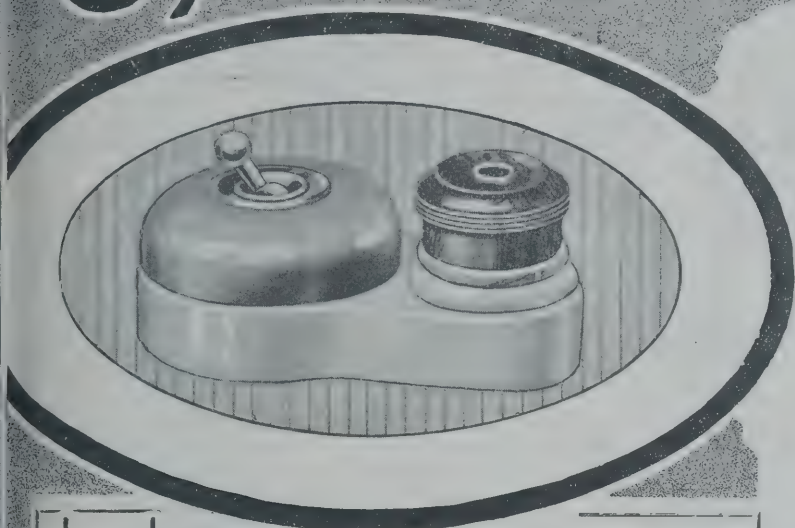
Gilbert Ireland, twelfth in succession and the first knight in the line, seems to have highly valued the honour conferred on him by King James, for we read that the letters "Knt" were subsequently added to his initials on the gateway at the Hutte and even on the dinner bell. Sir Gilbert died in 1626 and was succeeded by John (Fitz Gilbert) de Ireland, who married the daughter of the Lord Mayor of London. But the ancient Hutte, the scene of much historic splendour, was now showing signs of disrepair, and on coming into possession he determined on building a new house, and the present picturesque Hale Hall. The historian incidentally refers to the beautifully panelled room as follows:—"The new house was no sooner habitable than he removed into it, and put up in it twenty-six of those shields of arms, which blazoned in their proper colours and placed over the panelled wainscoting, form a sort of family history in hieroglyphics, and are a genealogical ornament of a handsome and appropriate kind."

John, however, died in 1633, and was succeeded by his son Gilbert, aged 13 years, who was educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and at Bewsey met Margaret Ireland, a distant cousin, a girl of 15, who afterwards became his



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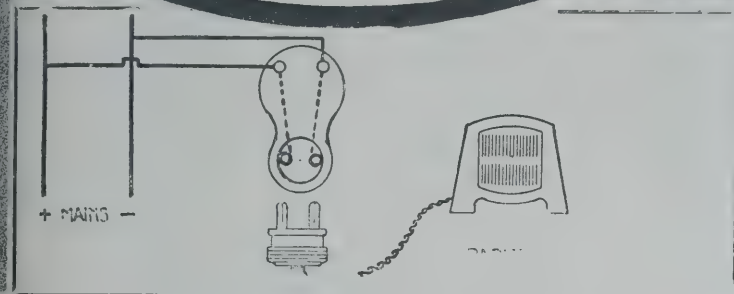
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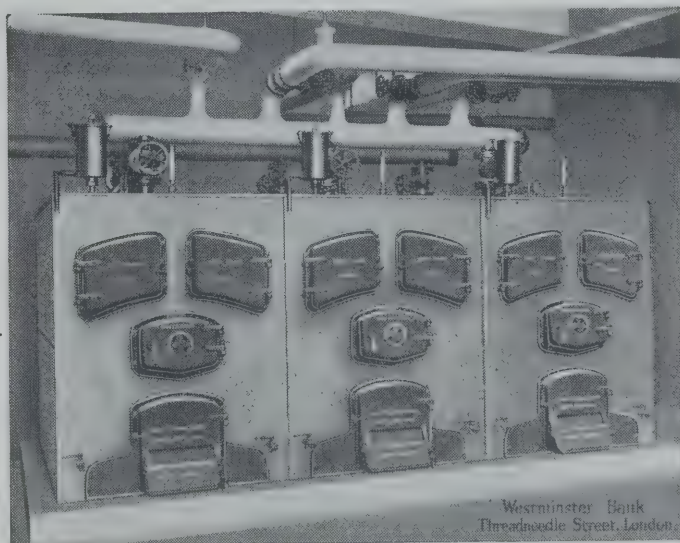
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wife. In 1645 Gilbert Ireland, as a member of Parliament, was appointed an assessor of the county of Lancaster. In 1655 he became Colonel Gilbert Ireland, and was appointed by Cromwell to be Governor of Liverpool.

In 1660 Colonel Ireland, with the Hon. William Stanley, brother of the 8th Earl of Derby, represented Liverpool in Parliament, and he received knighthood at the hands of the King. In 1671 he seems to have had leisure to find time to put certain finishing touches to his house at Hale, when such embellishments as the rare and beautiful glass windows may be put to his credit. The carved and perforated oak panels with his initials on one and his wife's on the other, and dated 1671, were affixed to the pine-panelled room. There is a stone carved on the front of the building recording that the Hall had been completed "by Gilbert Ireland," Knight, and Dame Margaret his wife, in the year 1674. His position as Lieutenant of the County, Member of Parliament and Mayor of Liverpool was more than exacting, moreover entertainings in those days were not proverbial for their moderation, and it is recorded that Sir Gilbert's health and purse suffered



CARVED AND PERFORATED PANEL.

severely by the profuse hospitality that he always maintained at Hale. The following year he died of apoplexy in his 51st year, and without issue. His wife died of a broken heart less than three months afterwards.

In 1812 Hale Hall became the family residence of the Ireland Blackburn family. Mr. Ireland Blackburn succeeded his father in 1833 and moved into Hale, where we read "his taste, habits and kindness made him a Model Country Gentleman." In 1835 he was member for Warrington, and died at the venerable age of 91, and was succeeded by the late Colonel John Ireland Blackburn, and in turn by Colonel Robert Ireland Blackburn, the present owner of Hale Hall, the picturesque historic mansion on the banks of the Mersey and overlooking in distant view the blue mountains of Wales. It has already been mentioned that over the famous panelling at Hale Sir Gilbert Ireland set up the Arms of the family and their alliances. Since then fourteen more of these heraldic devices relative to the Blackburn family, making 40 in all.

The dignity and historic significance attached to paneling accounts for the fascination this form of decoration has for the present generation. In connection with this work we have pleasure in introducing our readers to the firm of Messrs. Hotspur, Ltd., of 16 Buckingham Palace

Road. The firm are open to give estimates for decoration in the style of any period. They specialise in oak and pine panelling. In view of the permanent nature of this form of decoration, and its increasing value, the method is by no means an expensive one. Messrs. Hotspur, Ltd., have a large selection of early oak work, and a carefully selected stock of panels from Elizabethan houses. They also have some rare parchemin panels, and particularly interesting linen-fold panels and chests.

International Federation of Building and Public Works.

The New President.

Mr. Roland B. Chessum of London has been elected President of the International Federation of Building and Public Works. He was nominated by the National Federation of Building Trades Employers on September 15 last at a meeting of the Administrative Committee of the National Federation held at 48 Bedford Square, W.C.1. Mr. R. F. Van Ophem of Paris, Director of the International, officially remitted to Mr. Chessum the office of President.

Mr. R. F. Van Ophem, in a short address, paid a feeling tribute to the late lamented president, Mr. Despagnat. He further expressed the firm belief that the International Federation with the support of the National Federation and under the British chairmanship, would solve many important and vital problems. In conclusion, he expressed the gratefulness of the International for what the National Federation had already done and for what he was certain they would accomplish in the future.

The National President (Mr. Croad) complimented Mr. Van Ophem on his command of the English language which had enabled him to express his thoughts in such a lucid manner and on behalf of the committee he sincerely thanked him for his address.

MR. CHESSUM'S RESPONSE.

Mr. Chessum, the president of the International, said the members could not, he thought, having heard Mr. Van Ophem address them in their own language, fail but to appreciate some of his own feelings when he had been addressing not only his French compatriots, but also a mixed assembly of a congress where 42 countries were represented. He was glad to have the opportunity of replying and formally accepting the presidency at Mr. Van Ophem's hands, chiefly because he was deeply sensible of the great honour that had been conferred upon him in being the first Englishman who had ever held that position. Those who attended the recent Congress in Paris last June when 42 countries were officially represented, must have been struck with the warmth of their reception, the cordiality and the "bon camaraderie" that exists among the delegates. He was the more sensible of the responsibilities of this position and of the need of the enthusiastic support of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers by the outlook that is given from the Bureau of the International Federation. Correspondence has already commenced to flow in from various countries who had attended those meetings.

He would like to refer to a proposition which was made on behalf of the Americans in connection with an international competition with a view of promoting and facilitating the construction of houses for the middle and intellectual classes. The suggested form of that competition was that a sum of one thousand dollars should be awarded in prizes of five hundred, three hundred, and two hundred dollars. In due time the Bureau would send the actual forms to the National Federation of Building Trades Employers for their consideration, and it was hoped their active support would be forthcoming. There would also be sent in due course a list of the members composing the new Bureau as constituted when the Congress took place in Paris.

He said he had been able to secure from Mr. Van Ophem some details with regard to the finances of the International, and found that the total revenue was much below what it ought to be, and that the expense of running the International had largely fallen upon the shoulders of the gentlemen who was there that day and to whom they were giving a welcome. It was a position which was intolerable, and the burden ought to be borne by the respective countries, and so win the support which would enable the duties of the International Federation Administration to be conducted in such a way as to be worthy of its great office.

With the decease of their late president, M. Despagnat, there has been lost to the International Federation a man held in the very highest regard, a man of whose unique ability everyone



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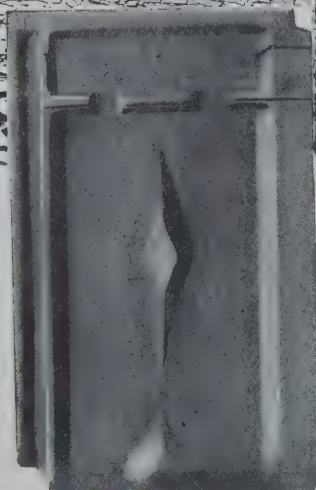
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was intensely sensible, and he (Mr. Chessum) was conscious, in following the footsteps of such a past-master of conducting the affairs of the International Federation, of the gravity of the responsibility he had undertaken. If at the end of his term of office he was able to feel that through his appointment he as an individual and a representative of this great country, supported by the National Federation membership, had been able to improve in some small degree the international relations, then he would consider that he had contributed something to a work which was one of the highest ideals that any man could hope to aspire to. It was in that sense that he had gladly taken on the position and with the deep conviction that he would be heartily supported by the National Federation of Building Trades Employers who had permitted him to accept this position.

Continuing, Mr. Chessum said to Mr. Van Ophem he would like at that meeting to publicly tender his keen appreciation of his consistent friendship since the first time when he had represented the National Federation of Building Trades Employers at any of the meetings of the Federation Internationale.

DINNER.

On Tuesday evening, September 15, Mr. Jno. Croad, the president of the National Federation, entertained the president and secretary of the International Federation (Mr. R. B. Chessum) and Mr. R. F. Van Ophem) to dinner at the Hotel Victoria. Mr. A. G. White (National general secretary) also being present. After dinner a long conversation took place on the aims, ambitions, finance, and policy of the International Federation.

General News.

CARDIFF.—Funds are being raised by the parishioners of St. Josephs, Cardiff, for the erection of a new School, and plans are being prepared by Messrs. F. R. Bates and Son, Capital and Counties Chambers, No. 30 Commercial Street, Newport.

CHELMSFORD.—The Rural District Council are seeking a loan of £10,000 for the erection of workmen's houses.—A loan of £3,000 has been obtained for the extension of the Council Offices.

COULSDON.—Coulsdon Heights Estate Co., Ltd., are about to commence the development of the estate and are negotiating with the U.D.C. regarding sewerage.—Sewer works are to be carried out at Hollyn Oak Road, Coulsdon, at a cost of £2,650, and at Stoats Nest Road at a cost of £4,630.—Plans passed: 3 houses, Bramley Avenue, Coulsdon, for Messrs. Chester & Hopkins; extension of class-room and dormitory, Woodcote Lane, Purley, for Mr. E. Dodd, St. Mark's Hall, Woodcote, Purley, for Mr. E. Hayman, architect, 44 Bedford Row, W.C.; 18 houses, Brighton Road, Coulsdon, for Mr. T. Barden; 3 houses, Chipstead Valley Road, for Mr. Walter Cottage; quarters for married men, Hayes Lane, Kenley, for Air Ministry; 12 houses, St. Andrew's Road, Coulsdon, for Mr. T. Hayward; 4 new streets, Sellden Garden Village, for Messrs. R. Costain & Sons, Ltd.

COVENTRY.—The Corporation are seeking sanction for a loan of £270,000 for the erection of additional houses and flats at the Radford housing estate.—A loan of £230,000 is to be sought for extensions at the Foleshill gas works.—A loan of £2,174 is being sought for extensions at Barr's Hill secondary school.

CROMPTON.—Plans were submitted to the Crompton surveyors' Committee for the alteration of the premises in Merton Street into a Picture Hall.

CROYDON Corporation Hospitals Committee recommend the tender, £7,682, of Mr. J. Quittenton, of Warlingham, for the erection of 12 cottages at the mental hospital.

CROYDON.—Plans passed: Alterations and additions, Croydon General Hospital, London Road, for Messrs. Berney & Sons, architects, 33 and 35 High Street, Croydon; alterations and additions, High Street, to provide show rooms for Corporation Electricity Department; four houses, Violet Lane, for Church Army Housing, Ltd.; three houses, Mount Park Avenue, for Messrs. Morgan Baines & Clarke; 10 houses, Ross Road, for Mr. C. Ball of Upperton Gardens, Eastbourne; 28 houses, Norbury Hill, for Messrs. Thomas & Sons, of Bramley Avenue, Coulsdon; nine houses, Waddon Court Road, for Mr. E. G. Bax; 22 garages, Westbourne Road, for Mr. F. W. Rees, architect, 44 Park Lane, Croydon; 11 houses, Gonville Road, for Mr. A. E. Stent; four houses, Waddon Park Avenue, for Mr. G. H. Dales; four houses, Addiscombe Road, for Messrs. Paish, Tyler & Crump; six houses, Harcourt Road and Keston Road, for Mr. R. B. Manser; six houses, Limsfield Avenue, for Mr. H. E. Davey; 40 houses, Cecil Road, for Excel Construction Co., of 1 Olaf's Road, Fulham; four houses, Denning Avenue, for Mr. S. H. Palmer; dance hall, London Road, for Mr. F. C. Mitchell, 80 George Street, Portman Square; new dining hall, etc., Royal College for Blind, Upper Norwood, for Mr. E. H. Payne; four houses, Bensham Lane, for Mr. F. H. Ayling; seven houses and eight garages, Bramley Hill, for Mr. T. Grimes; 14 garages, Avondale Road, for Messrs. Scratchley Bros., builders, 21 and 23 Woodville Road, Thornton Heath; six houses, Greenaby Avenue, for Messrs. Cox & Sons, of 269 Purley Way; 16 garages, Selhurst Road, for Mr. C. Ridge; store and 12 garages, Beulah Road, for Mr. A. Voss.

DONCASTER.—It is proposed to erect a new church at a cost of over £2,000 on a site at Askern.

DOVER.—The Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., are to construct a large petrol store in Cherry Tree Avenue.—The governors of Dover College have a scheme for extensions and for erecting a pavilion at the Maxton Playing Fields.—The Education Committee are negotiating for a school site near Astor Avenue.—

Plans have been prepared for improvements at the Charlton school.—Mr. H. F. Caspall proposes to erect eight subsidised houses in Whitfield Avenue and Old Park Road.—Mr. Harve who has a contract for the erection of houses, has offered to build more at the same prices, and the Housing Committee have the matter under consideration.

GLASGOW.—The Housing Committee have approved the layout of land at Maryhill for the erection of 248 houses.—Approval has been given for a scheme for 612 houses at Knightswood Farm estate.—It has been arranged to build 188 houses on the Wellmeadow estate, Pollokshaws.—Eleven shops are to be erected on the Knightswood estate and seven on the Tollero estate.—Messrs. George Duncan, Sons & Co., Ltd., Gourock, inspect the artificial stone manufactured by them there with a view to the introduction of this stone, if satisfactory, into one or more of the Corporation tenement schemes.—The Giffnock Building Co. have a scheme for the erection of 31 terrace houses, at Busby Road, Giffnock.—Messrs. Mactaggart & Mickel, Ltd., builders, Glasgow, are to erect 30 houses at King's Park, Mount Florida.—Messrs. John Adam & Co., are to erect 64 terrace houses in Shawmoss Road.—At the Kelvin Hall Committee the City Engineer submitted a lay-out plan for a new hall to be erected at Bunhouse and the Committee again considered the offer and designs by Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., and recommended that this offer to build a new Kelvin Hall at a cost of £162,115 be accepted. It was explained that the plan showed the hall to be a steel-frame building with three-span roof, the central span being 200 feet in width and the two side spans each 60 ft. wide, and practically fireproof throughout. The offer does not provide for heating, ventilating or drainage. The Finance Committee, however, have suggested that the firm be asked to quote a complete estimate of the total cost.—It is proposed to carry out the improvement of London Road at a cost of £18,000.

GLOSSOP.—The Corporation have postponed a proposal for the erection of 20 houses for the police.—Plans passed: alterations to offices for Messrs. John Walton, Ltd.; lavatories at Littlemoor School, for Trustees.

GOSPORT.—The Corporation are to seek sanction for a loan of £61,000 for the erection of 122 houses on the Forton estate.—Plans are to be prepared for a pavilion to be erected at King Bottom Park.

GRAVESEND.—Mr. Thomas H. Dunch, who has been appointed architect for the tenement flat scheme, will shortly have his plans ready so that the Corporation may invite tenders without delay.—Plans passed: 6 houses, New House Lane, for Mr. W. Gould; 6 houses, Wrotham Road, for Mr. T. Bennet, architect, 191 Parrock Street, Gravesend; sheds at Terracotta Wharf, for Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd.

HANWELL.—The U.D.C. have purchased land on the Hopefield estate. The surveyor has been instructed to prepare plans for the erection of houses thereon.—Messrs. Broad & Co., Ltd., propose developments at Brent Foundry.—Ashby's Stain Brewery have a proposal for the rebuilding of the Prince of Wales beerhouse, Boston Road.—Plans passed: four houses, Montague Road, for Messrs. Chase Gardener & Co.; six houses, Boston Road, for Mr. F. P. Hurst.

LOWESTOFT.—A labour exchange is to be erected in the Marina, by H.M.O.W.—Mr. E. C. Allerton, architect, 14 London Road, North Lowestoft, on behalf of Mr. Percy Huck, has prepared a scheme for erecting small bungalows in Sand Lane.—The Unemployment Grants Committee have agreed to aid the scheme for the reconstruction of Battery Green, Wharfedale Road and Marine Parade, at a cost of £20,000.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned loans of £33,000 for the extension of the sea wall on the North Beach, and £1,743 for the construction of groynes. Land at Kirkley is being obtained for the erection of houses.

CONTENTS.

Modern Art in Industry	PAGE 249	Exhibitions and Art Gallery Notes	PAGE 255
Notes and Comments	250	Japanese Architecture	259
Housing and Character-building	252	Book Notes	262
Correspondence	254	General News	264

Modern Art in Industry.



DECORATIVE FIGURE ON VIGO HOUSE, REGENT STREET, W.
SIR JOHN J. BURNET, R.A., & PARTNERS, Architects. REID DICK, R.A., Sculptor.

Sir Lawrence Weaver has written a letter which nearly fills a column in "The Times," under the above title. He seems to us, to use an Americanism, to be almost "stampeded" by the fear that we shall lose trade in art products because our manufacturers are showing little tendency to follow the new art developments which are manifest on the Continent, of which the recent Paris Exhibition of Modern Decoration and Industrial Art showed marked evidence. That exhibition, of which the nature of the design of the various building was frankly representative, shows indeed what modern Europe is thinking of; but we doubt whether it forms an example of what we should aim at or follow. In matters of art there is much support for the view that real originality which is otherwise than ephemeral must come slowly and unconsciously, that deep-rooted culture is, and must be, necessarily conservative.

We may take the best of our architecture—the domestic type—work, the excellence of which is admitted on the Continent and in America, and ask ourselves how it compares and how it differs from similar work elsewhere. Nowhere that we know of in Europe does a modern house even distantly resemble the work of the people and past from which it springs, whereas we can point to many modern houses which are indistinguishable from those of the Georgian or of older phases of our national

work except, because thoroughly convenient planning and comfort have been substituted for the more haphazard arrangement or want of arrangement of the past. And yet the recognition that such work is good is constantly afforded by the desire of wealthy men of other nations to employ English architects for their houses.

We understand Sir Lawrence Weaver to argue that we may lose trade by not being new enough, but should we not stop to think that in domestic architecture at least we have held our own precisely because we have not been too "new." France, Belgium and Germany are full of examples of l'art nouveau, but are these not already more stale in the eyes of everyone than our more conservative examples?

In a word, we would substitute for the desire to be "new" the determination to be "good," nor should we forget that it is only by close study that we can discover the inner soul of excellence and such close study is only possible if we keep along the rails of an admitted convention.

We have in this country passed through many phases of varying standards since the days of the aesthetes in the early 'eighties, and we can point to many decorative schemes carried out then which have admittedly good points, and were then considered as masterpieces of the time, but were we to attempt to sell buildings elaborately decorated by good artists

of those times, they would fetch values which would leave no payment for design, whereas great sums could be obtained for moderate-sized houses of Georgian date, the features of which have not been obliterated or spoiled.

In the same manner, good modern furniture which has distinct merit will not in this country be so saleable as some old examples of the past.

The reason is, we think, not immovable conservatism, but the recognition that the work which has a final appeal to us is not the outcome of clever invention, but of unconscious traditional growth and evolution.

We would go even further, and say that no really satisfactory art production is possible except under the conditions we have outlined. We believe that the whole of works of the post-impressionist, futurists, and cubists in painting will in a hundred years, or even less, be considered as being worth the value of the canvas they are painted on, and no more, though they well may be the work of men who, had they chosen saner methods, might have achieved lasting fame and reputation, and that a similar fate may well be that of many works by modern writers.

The new achievements of scientists and the outcome of research have lasting results, but they, too, are not the outcome of entirely new theories, but the additions and evolution of the strands of knowledge discovered in the past and developed from it. Metaphysicians may build up new and imaginary theories out of their inner consciousness, and by the skilful employment of words and of metaphor,

but these, while they may amuse and entertain, will be of little real use to mankind, while patient and continuous work of those employed in science and art will be.

It is interesting and striking that Sir Lawrence Weaver in his eight points does not once venture to praise any single example of the new spirit in Continental art, but simply asks whether as tested by standards of commerce it is safe not to follow the same road. We should find his letter far more convincing were he in a position to say that certain fine work of absolute merit had been produced by the scrapping of conventions.

It may be admitted that as a nation we have not made the same progress in many of the arts as it is considered we have in some forms of building. But may it not be that if we pursue similar methods to those which have given us results in our domestic work, we may achieve an advance which will at once be more lasting and more profitable than those to be obtained by the methods pursued elsewhere?

The desire for the novel will pass away, but the appreciation of the best will remain, and the number of those able to appreciate the best is likely to increase, which is a good commercial reason for being steadfast in well doing rather than in endeavouring to find some new thing.

Meanwhile it does not greatly disturb us to hear that the historic organisation of Sevres is experimenting with "new design." Saner counsels may obtain thirty years hence and the wandering into the byeways of new art may be looked upon as a temporary lapse of judgment.

Our Illustrations.

ST. NICHOLAS DU CHARDONNET AND ST. GERMAIN DES PRES, PARIS. From Pencil Drawings by G. H. Cook.
COMPETITIVE DESIGN FOR PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY OFFICES, NAIROBI. CECIL T. MITCHELL, Licentiate R.I.B.A., Architect.

New Railway Offices, Nairobi.

We illustrate the design submitted by Cecil T. Mitchell, Licentiate R.I.B.A., for this important competition. The elevations to the two roads were to be in ashlar. The windows have been arranged of the smallest number of different types as possible and would be fitted with steel casements. The woodwork was to be of imported Indian

teak for the principal rooms and mvuali to the remainder. Podocarpus would be used for the carpentry and exposed joiners' work. There are no reliable native hardwoods. Roof tiles were to be of the half-round imported Italian type.

The estimated cost of the main building, based on a cube of 1s. 5d. a foot was £51,385 and the whole cost of the scheme £52,748.

Notes and Comments.

The Extension of the Manchester Town Hall.

Another great architectural competition is shortly to be instituted—that for the enlargement of the Manchester Town Hall, as the President of the Institute has been asked to nominate an assessor. Many years have passed since the date when Mr. Alfred Waterhouse won the Manchester Town Hall competition with a design showing high merit in its planning and the Gothic rendering in its architectural treatment which was then the last word of the day. Now different standards obtain, and we do not suppose that anyone will attempt to follow the type originally set by Waterhouse. We hope that the conditions for the new competition will be as simple and free as is possible, as experience shows that the laying down of many conditions almost always leads to difficulty and an assessor may frequently be involved in the meshes of a web for which he is alone responsible. A "scrap of paper" rather than a book is the form which instructions should take.

The Nationalities of New York.

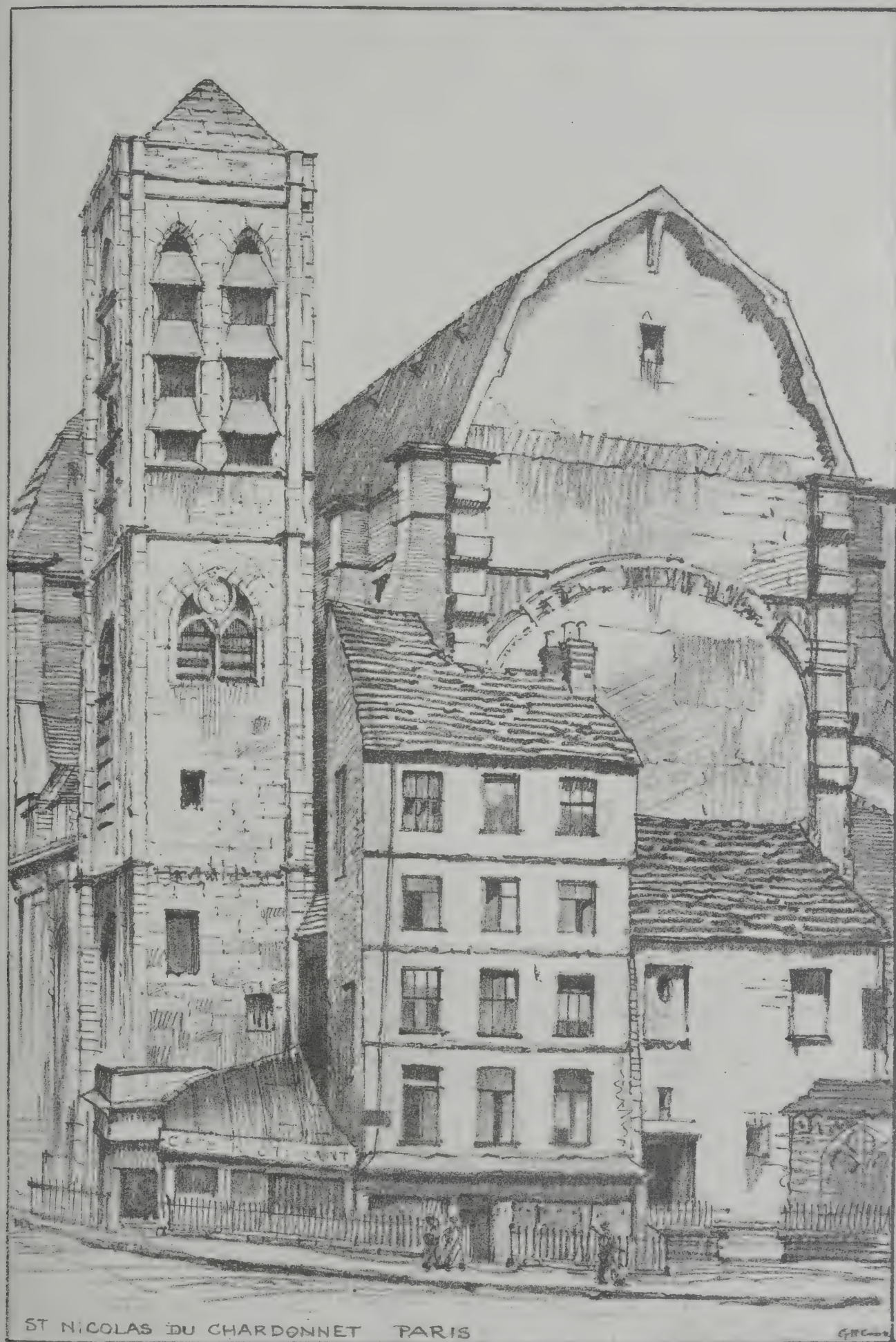
A correspondent of the "Daily Express" gives the following account of the cosmopolitan impression produced by New York which is exceptionally vivid and picturesque. He says:

"New York is an eastern city in a western setting. It has no beauty, no history, nothing to compare with London or Paris or Budapest, but it is a patchwork crazy quilt of vivid patterns, startling to the eye and astounding to the ear. It is a memorial in stone and steel to a race struggling to express an individuality which they have not yet achieved.

"The noise and the colour of New York instantly produce the effect of a stroll through Bagdad. It is as if some genii of the Arabian Nights had seized handfuls of cities, placed them on a magic carpet, and flown it cross the world and settled it on the banks of the Hudson.

"Here is Athens, there Berlin, but squares of the crazy quilt, each a water-tight compartment, full, each of them, with its own nationals, living and loving, just as if they were thousands of miles away, in the lands of their forefathers. I have travelled in a few hours through Germany, Italy, Hungary and China, each and every one a pulsing, vibrant part of New York.

"Walk through the Hungarian quarter, with its gipsy music and its restaurants, and you can close your eyes and see those limitless plains where Horthy's Hussars wheel and drill and await the coming of another day. Little Italy is just Naples. Right in front of you might be the Via Nazionale, screaming, roaring, and trading. In a moment we shall see a holy procession leaving the church, and I feel sure out of those narrow streets will pour Mussolini's Black Shirts pressing back the surging crowds amid mingled jeers and cheers.



ST NICOLAS DU CHARDONNET PARIS

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ST. NICOLAS DU CHARDONNET, PARIS.

FROM PENCIL DRAWING BY G. H. COOK.

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ST. GERMAIN DES PRÈS, PARIS.

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ST. GERMAIN DES PRÈS. PARIS.

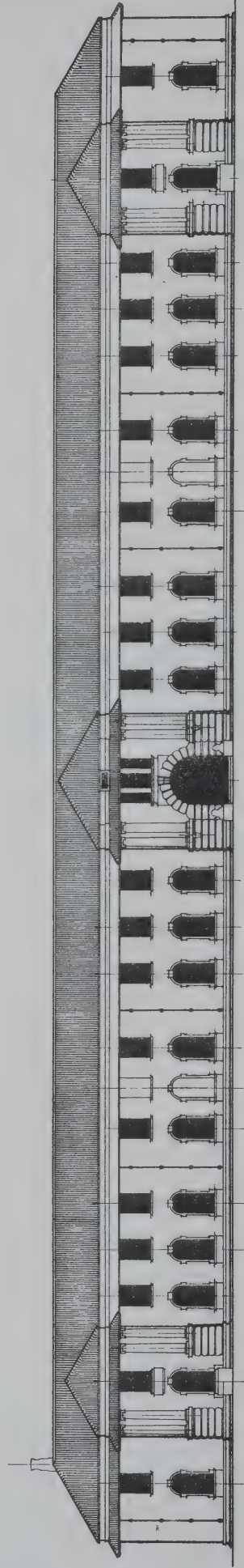
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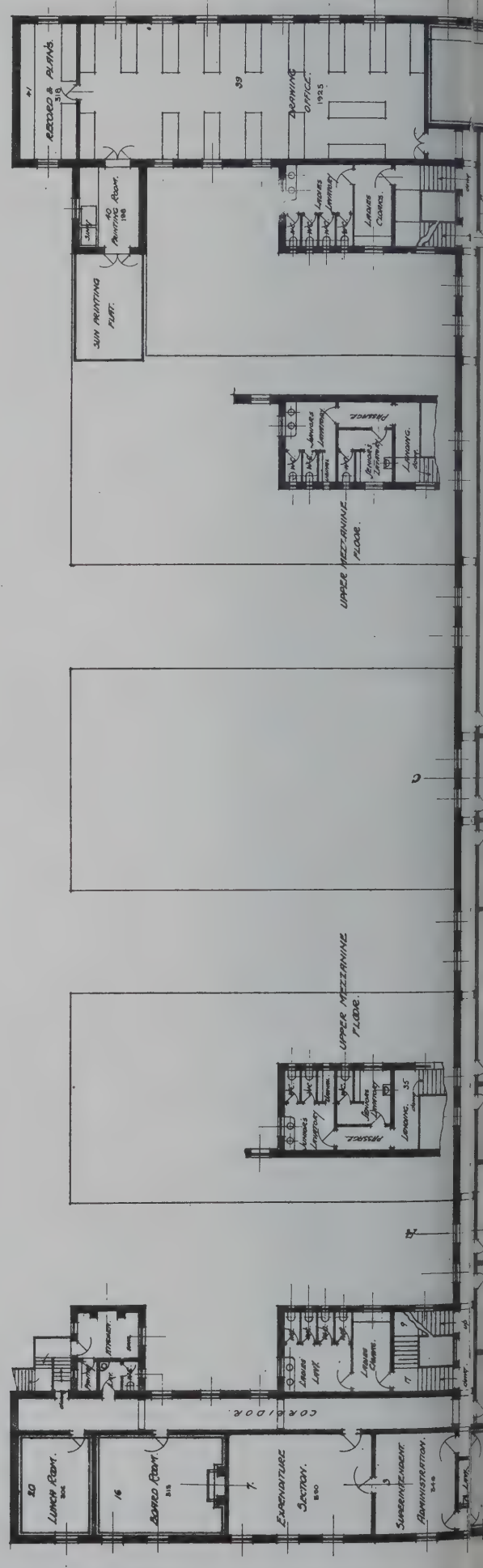
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THE ARCHITECT, OCTOBER 9th, 1925.

PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY OFFICES NAIROBI



FRONT ELEVATION



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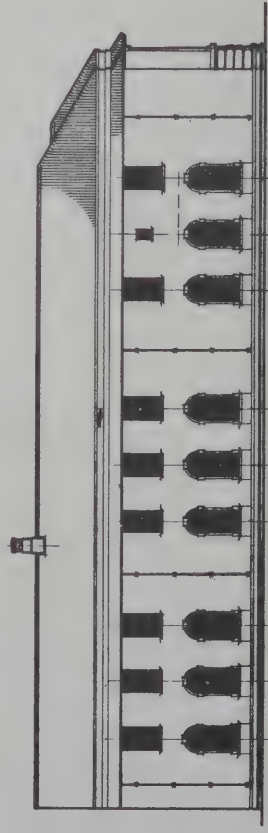
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THE ARCHITECT, OCTOBER 9th, 1925.

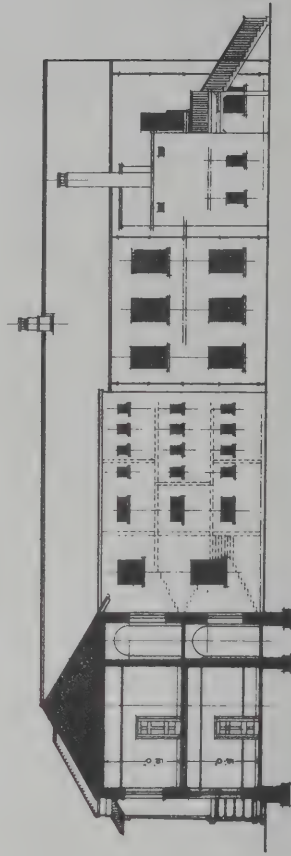
PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY OFFICES NAIROBI.



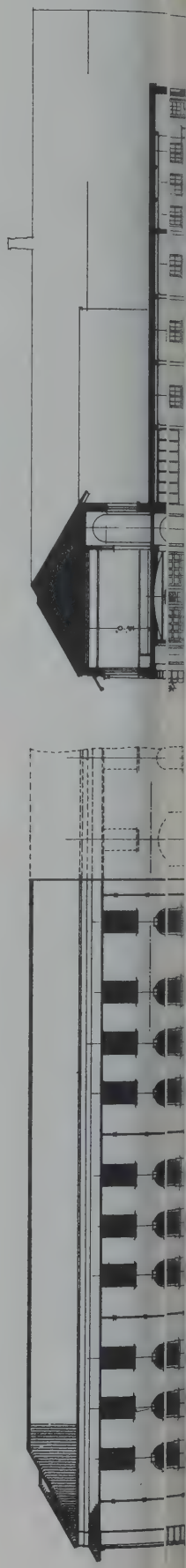
BACK ELEVATION



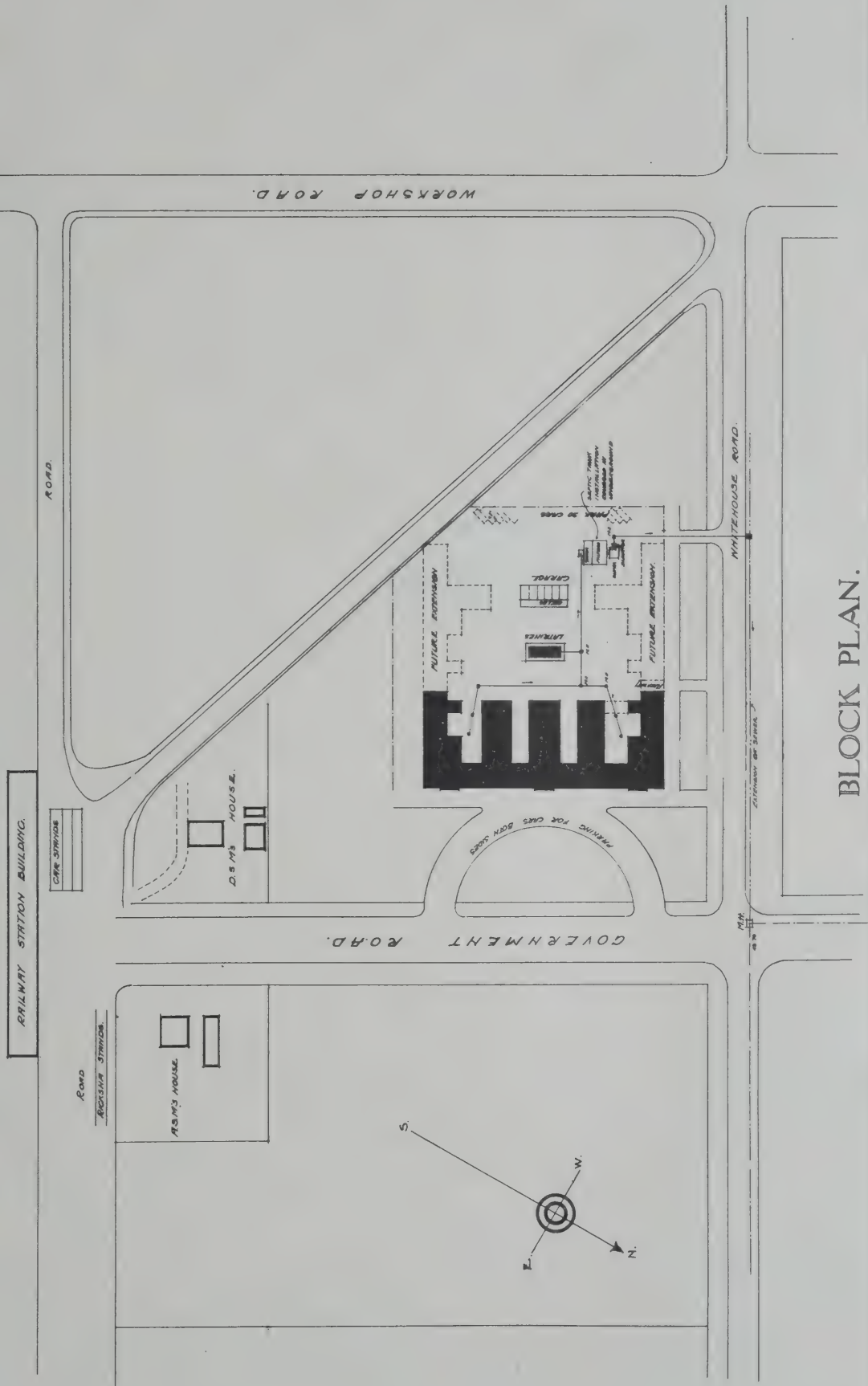
SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION



SECTION A.A.



Scale - 1/4 inch = 10 feet



BLOCK PLAN.

Scale - 1/4 inch = 10 feet

PHOTO-LITHO: W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON

COMPETITIVE DESIGN FOR PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY OFFICES, NAIROBI.

CECIL T. MITCHELL, L.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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Chinatown. . . . Full of thrills. . . . A Tong war. . . . Elusive China. One feels there will be a mother-of-pearl sunset, and junks will come stealing up the river. . . . A barber's shop where a Chink is shaving an Italian. . . . But what goes on beyond those closed doors? Games of fan-tan? Opium?"

We remember New York some twenty years ago as being exceptionally full of colour and life but we are told we should not recognise it to-day. We cannot agree that it has no beauty, but would rather put it that its beauty is comparable to that of no other place and to compare it with a European city is similar to comparing a stream to a cataract. It is a city which one dislikes at first but which one feels strongly attracted towards after a few months, and we should imagine that to its inhabitants it very soon seems to be the only possible place to live in.

A Well-paid Occupation.

A clever artisan, when summoned by his wife, admitted that he earned £20 a week as a bricklayer and was ordered to pay her 30s. a week. We are not surprised at the figure stated, the explanation of which is that the man is probably an expert and capable workman, who is willing to work long hours like those engaged in what are known as professions. We heard some time ago of a gang of free bricklayers who went about the country taking piece-work and whose average earnings were something between £17 and £20 a man. We also know that some months ago when we made a comparison between American rates of pay checked by the number of bricks laid in an hour and similar payments made here that the result showed the cost of bricklaying here was if anything higher than in America. In other words, there would be no inducement for the bricklayer to emigrate to obtain better wages in America, for more wages would be open to him here if his output was increased to what it has to be in America. A great part of the difficulties of this country would, in a word, be solved were the workers to understand that a greater output would automatically bring about benefits they wish to obtain.

Good Arguments.

Christopher Straight writes a very good article in the "Sunday News" on the advantages of increased output in the building trade, and emphasises the point that most of these advantages fall on the worker. He begins by quoting a bricklayer who says he lays 500 bricks a day but could lay 1,000 but whom would it profit? To begin with, the writer says that out of every ten bricks laid, nine are on buildings used wholly by the workers (1) to work in, (2) to live and sleep in, (3) to amuse and educate themselves in. If, therefore, the bricklayer and other workman could easily do more it would bring down the cost of all these items. Then, as wages are and must be settled with some regard to output, as the employers cannot work at a loss, greater output would mean increased wages.

At the same time, the builder would gain as he would turn over his capital in less time, require shorter overdrafts with less interest from banks, and be enabled to buy his materials at a cheaper rate. The buyer of the houses would be benefited as nothing could keep the prices of them up when the costs of building had fallen.

Other workers would benefit as the building operatives having more wages to spend would purchase more. The reverse also holds, and the slower men work the more costly and difficult they make it for themselves and for all others.

"London Statistics."

The London County Council have published a book under the above title, of which we have not yet received a copy, which gives the value of the houses, offices and public buildings of London at £62,525,827. The administration of London, county and municipal, costs £60,000,000 a year. The London County Council has a revenue of £13,000,000 a year raised on a county rate. The income of the City is £2,213,515, of which only £1,282,844 is derived from the rates; the total debt of London now reaches the figure of £122,988,797. The total length of London streets is given at 2,210 miles, or continued in a straight line they would reach two-thirds of the way to America.

Such statistics are interesting and astounding, but at the same time it is questionable whether they are worth the great expenditure on staff necessary to compile and arrange them. It may, however, be that they are of some distinct use which does not at first sight appear.

Dublin and Foreign Help.

Not only is a German firm to carry out the big Dublin Housing Scheme but the city has now accepted the offer of a French firm to keep its streets clean. It may almost be said that the capital city will be run by foreigners. To complete the picture, all that is needed is a national theatre, the contract to run which should be taken up by Italians. Possibly a loophole may be left for the employment of the Englishman unless indeed the municipal authorities think that we had our turn in the eighteenth century, which gave Ireland so many great houses and Dublin so many fine buildings. We note that the German housing firm promise the corporation three completed houses a day, at which rate the housing shortage should soon be eliminated.

Vigo House, Regent Street.

Vigo House, Regent Street, was officially opened on October 6, last. A very large gathering was present and many people passed through the premises during the reception hours. The design is a striking example of the growing appreciation of architecture among the commercial classes. There is no suggestion that design has been exploited by the owner's requirements. There is evidence on the other hand that he possessed complete confidence in the architects, Sir John J. Burnet, R.A., & Partners. The architect on his part has also carefully thought out his design, so that when it was built it would serve every practical purpose with efficiency and architectural grace.

The building is in striking contrast with its neighbours who do not compete with it in any way. They supply a suitable unobtrusive background. They embody little careful thought of modern requirements. The interior decorations of Vigo House are simple and with the fittings speak for themselves. They will inspire visitors and clients with a sense of quality, style and value.

R.I.B.A. Notes.

EXAMINATIONS.

The following are the dates for the forthcoming R.I.B.A. Examinations:—

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.—November 20, 21, 23, 24 and 26, 1925. (Last day for receiving applications—October 17, 1925.) May 28, 29, 31, June 1 and 3, 1926. (Last day for receiving applications—April 23, 1926.) The centres of this examination will be London and Leeds.

FINAL AND SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.—December 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10, 1925. (Last day for receiving applications—October 30, 1925.) July 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 15, 1926. (Last day for receiving applications—June 4, 1926.)

EXAMINATION FOR THE R.I.B.A. DIPLOMA IN TOWN PLANNING.—June 30, July 1, 2 and 5, 1926. (Last day for receiving applications—March 1, 1926.)

SILVER MEDAL FOR RECOGNISED SCHOOLS.

The R.I.B.A. Silver Medal for the best set of drawings submitted at the annual Exhibition of Designs of Students of Recognised Schools exempted from the Final Examination has been awarded to Miss Thelma Silcock (Diploma in Architecture, School of Architecture, University of Liverpool).

Competition News.

BIRKENHEAD.—The Special Committee of the Corporation, accompanied by Sir Robert Lorimer, the assessor, have inspected the site of the proposed art gallery and museum at the junction of Balls Road and Slatey Road, and considered the draft conditions of the competition for the erection of the building and recommend the invitation of designs in accordance therewith.

Housing and Character-building

By B. S. Townroe.



MAISON OUV-RIERE, STRASBOURG GARDEN SUBURB.

On the fortifications of Strasbourg, strengthened by the Germans and now disused, there is being built to-day a unique garden suburb. The primary object of those responsible for the project is to encourage marriage, and the bringing up of healthy children. Accordingly, all the tenants are carefully selected on a scientific plan with this aim in view. Probably no other housing scheme of such magnitude has been carefully thought out to encourage character-building.

The capital needed has been provided out of war profits. The well-known firm of Ungemach, of Strasbourg, making bonbons during the war, found that their large profits continued to increase. The directors invested marks into various securities such as Canadian Pacific, Baltimore, Ohio, Buenos Aires, Argentine and Chinese securities. This foresight proved wise, for after the war the amount worked out to a capital of 2,418,266 marks and 68 pfennigs, which in view of the depreciation of the mark, would have been practically valueless if it had not been invested in pounds sterling, and in dollars. The head of the firm, with the assistance of his manager, M. Alfred Dachert, a man of exceptional brain power and organising ability, felt that this fortune, which had been made almost fortuitously as a result of the war, ought not to become their own property, but should be returned to the community.

They decided to offer the money to the French Government with a view to the construction of a garden suburb that would encourage the growth of large families. The High Commissioner for Alsace, M. Millerand, representing the President of the French Republic, agreed and gave formal approval on January 22, 1920. The Strasbourg Corporation gave the ground, as it was no longer needed after the Armistice for fortifications.

As the scheme contained many original features, it was decided to hold a special competition open to all the architects of France, for the design of "Les Jardins Ungemach." The essential points of the design were that each house should be detached and should be surrounded by a garden, and that there should be a living room, two or

three bedrooms, a combined kitchen and dining room, a scullery, an attic, a cellar and the usual offices. The houses are in many cases now completed and occupied, and have followed out in the main the original scheme.

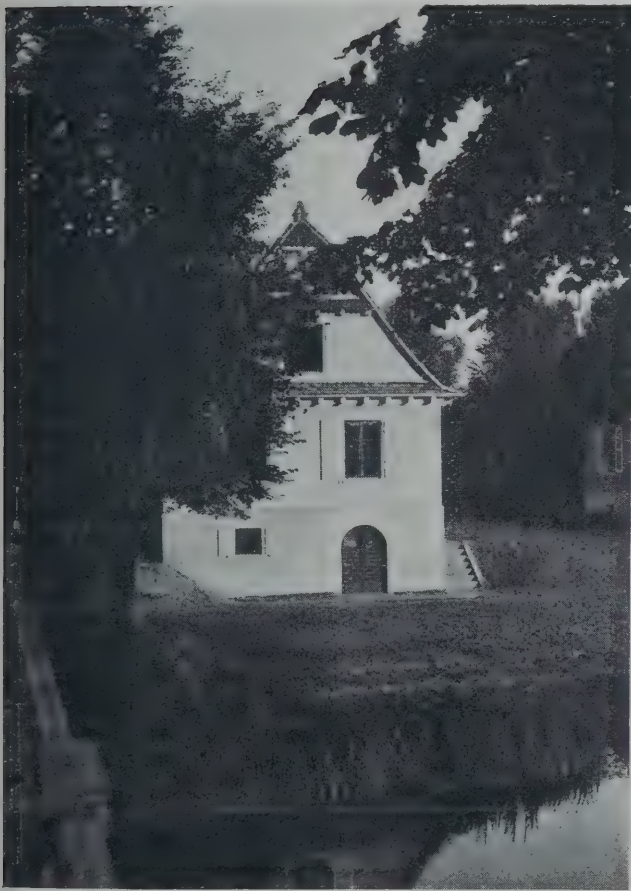
They are all bungalows, but the high Alsatian roofs contain plenty of room so that further rooms can be arranged in case of the family increasing. M. Paul Rutté, of Paris, is the architect, and M. Jean Sorg, of Strasbourg, a young man, is the resident architect. There are twenty-seven different types of houses, thus giving plenty of diversity in appearance, but all are detached, and all contain the agreed number of rooms. In each bedroom there is a wash basin with running hot and cold water. In the scullery there is a bath cast out of concrete in order to save money at the same time as the concrete walls of the house are being constructed. But in order that this bath may not be used as a depository for coal or a residence for hens, as occurs in so many English schemes, it is only put in if the tenants ask for it, although they are encouraged to do so.

A separate room with an exit to the garden alone is provided to accommodate bicycles, perambulators and garden implements. There is also electric light and gas laid on as well as a plentiful supply of water. A special point is made of the cellars, dear to the heart of the Alsatian. They extend under the whole of the house and are sufficiently commodious for the storing of vegetables, coal, wine if necessary, and also can be used for a carpenter's shop or a dark room. The Alsations are keen craftsmen, and therefore appreciate these amenities.

There was a very large entrance of architects for the competition, and the designs were examined and classified by a special jury that was composed of the following:—The President of the foundation, M. Leon-Ungemach, who will hold the position until his death; the Vice-President, M. Dachert, who has given up all his business responsibilities in order that he may devote himself to seeing the scheme carried into being; the Mayor of the town of Strasbourg; M. Louis Bonnier, the Inspector-General of



CANAL PASSING THROUGH STRASBOURG GARDEN SUBURB.



STRASBOURG GARDEN SUBURB.

Architectural Designs in Paris; and certain local officials. The first prize was twenty thousand francs. Altogether a capital of some hundred thousand pounds is being spent in building these houses.

But the unique and most interesting feature of the scheme is the manner in which the tenants are selected. Applicants are required to fill in a form answering a number of questions. They receive points in so far as the answers afford a satisfactory indication as to the probability of a family and as to the way in which children, if any, are likely to be brought up. Points are deducted for unfavourable replies, which are carefully tested by a special committee in order to ascertain their accuracy. Those applicants who gain the greatest number of marks are

given the opportunity of becoming tenants at rents that vary from 2,400 francs a year to 2,800. At the present rate of exchange these rents would mean that for 10s. a week a house can be leased that in London or Edinburgh would certainly be rented at £2 or £3 a week.

As the aim is to attract young married couples, six points are given to those who are in their first year of marriage, but if they have been married four years and have had no children, two points are deducted for each year beyond four. For every child twenty points are given, but this is divided by the years of marriage. Thus, if a couple have been married for three years and have three children, they will receive sixty points, but if a child has only arrived every third year in the course of nine



ON THE WAY TO STRASBOURG GARDEN SUBURB.

years their total will then amount to twenty. A point is deducted for every year above thirty years of age for the husband and over twenty-five years for the wife. If the husband does not earn a living for the family, fifty points are deducted. Similarly the amount of income is taken into account and where the income exceeds fifteen thousand francs, or £150, when the exchange is a hundred francs to the pound, one mark is deducted for every thousand francs in excess. The aim is to encourage those who are compelled to work hard for their own living, and *unearned* income exceeding a certain amount therefore means a deduction of points.

For every brother or sister belonging to the parents there is one point more, for the Committee act on the assumption that large families are more likely to be born to those who themselves come of large families. The wife, too, is encouraged to do her own housework, and if she proposes to have a servant living in, fifty points are deducted. Nor are lodgers encouraged, except in the case of grandparents or invalid parents. Recommendations must also be provided, and if these are not satisfactory there is a deduction of a hundred points.

The questionnaire certainly looks formidable, but the houses are so attractive, the rents comparatively so low, and the environment so delightful that there is no lack whatsoever of applicants. But even if the replies given to the questionnaire are satisfactory, there are still two other requirements. The applicants are asked to provide a health certificate, and also a special committee have a look at their present residences, and if these are dirty or untidy, more marks are lost. This is to ensure that the tenants when chosen will take proper care of the houses.

I looked through a number of returns made by various applicants. Although superficially the classification appears almost too meticulous, apparently it works out far more satisfactorily than the haphazard methods adopted by many English local authorities for letting houses built at very heavy expense to the taxpayer under the Addison Scheme. These houses are in many cases occupied by persons enjoying high incomes, or even by corporation officials, and every member of a housing committee in England or Wales knows of tenants that are probably not the most deserving tenants who could have been selected. The Ungemach scheme at any rate has the merit of encouraging young couples who intend to have children. If at the end of two years their hopes are not realised, they receive notice to quit in order to make room for others. In such a case, as the manager stated with a twinkle, "There are some who prefer even a crying baby to losing a house."

Certainly the scheme is working extraordinarily well in so far as the main objects of the founder are being accomplished. In one house there were seven children and in the next there were eight. Three chief scouts lived side by side in another part of the estate. The whole suburb, for beauty and architectural excellence, is well worth a visit by the traveller to Strasbourg.

Correspondence.

Colour in Architecture.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Your correspondent's article on "Colour in Architecture" is interesting, but much more remains to be said on the subject. It is not enough to speak of colour as though anybody could use it. What is needed is collaboration between the architect and the painter, for only painters have the eye and mind trained to see and use colour in the right proportion and harmonies.

As one painter has said: "There is no end to the variations that can be played upon one colour alone."

Then there is the question of the chemistry of colour which is possibly not contained in the training of an architect!

On this point the house painter may know more even than the average artist! In short, the handling of colour is a highly technical matter. Apart from that, it is also a matter of period and of temperament. No two artists handle colour harmonies in the same way, and in each period of art the colour combinations have been different.

Your correspondent speaks of the exteriors of buildings, but the interiors also need consideration, and especially in public buildings. The building is rendered dreary and cold by the want of knowledge in the handling of colour inside as well as outside.

AMELIA DEFRIES.

Castelnau House,

75 Castlenau, Barnes, S.W. October 2, 1925.

Architects and Professional Indemnity Agencies, Ltd.

25-31 Moorgate, London, E.C.2.

October 5, 1925.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—Owing to the increasing growth of the "Architects' Indemnity Policy" Insurance, a company under the above title has been formed to act as agents for this insurance. No alteration will be made either in the security or the terms of the policy, which will continue to be subscribed by Lloyd's underwriters, and will be identical with that already in use. In future, however, policies will run from quarter-day to quarter-day, the odd period between the lapsing of the current policies and the next ensuing quarter-day being covered by special endorsement. The new company will furnish preliminary legal advice in cases of difficulty where a claim is likely to arise (the policy itself covering legal charges in respect of all claims actually formulated), and will be prepared to advise architects on general questions relating to insurance.—Yours etc.

LEONARD LAIT,

Manager.

Municipal School of Arts and Crafts.

Southend-on-Sea.

The above School re-opened for the Winter Session on September 15. The prospectus for 1925-26 shows an increase in the activities of the School and instruction is given in all branches of Art. A distinctive feature of the School is its Junior Art Department which is replenished year by year by promising students from the elementary schools in the Borough. Passing through a comprehensive grounding in practical Geometry, Perspective, Nature Drawing from Plants, museum and living specimens of Birds, Animals, and Fish; Details of the Human Figure, Antique and Costume, Light and Shade, Memory Drawing, etc., Evolution of Pattern, and Design and Colour Sense training combined with continued General Education, the students pass on to their selected crafts. The Architectural Section of the School has been augmented by a fourth year Course for Advanced Students and an additional wing has been built for the purpose of demonstrations in the uses of building materials. A comprehensive syllabus has been drawn up in order to equip students for employment as junior assistants, and for the Intermediate and Final Examinations of the R.I.B.A., and the examination of the other professional bodies. An employment register is kept, and the Principal will be glad to answer enquiries addressed to him at the School.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

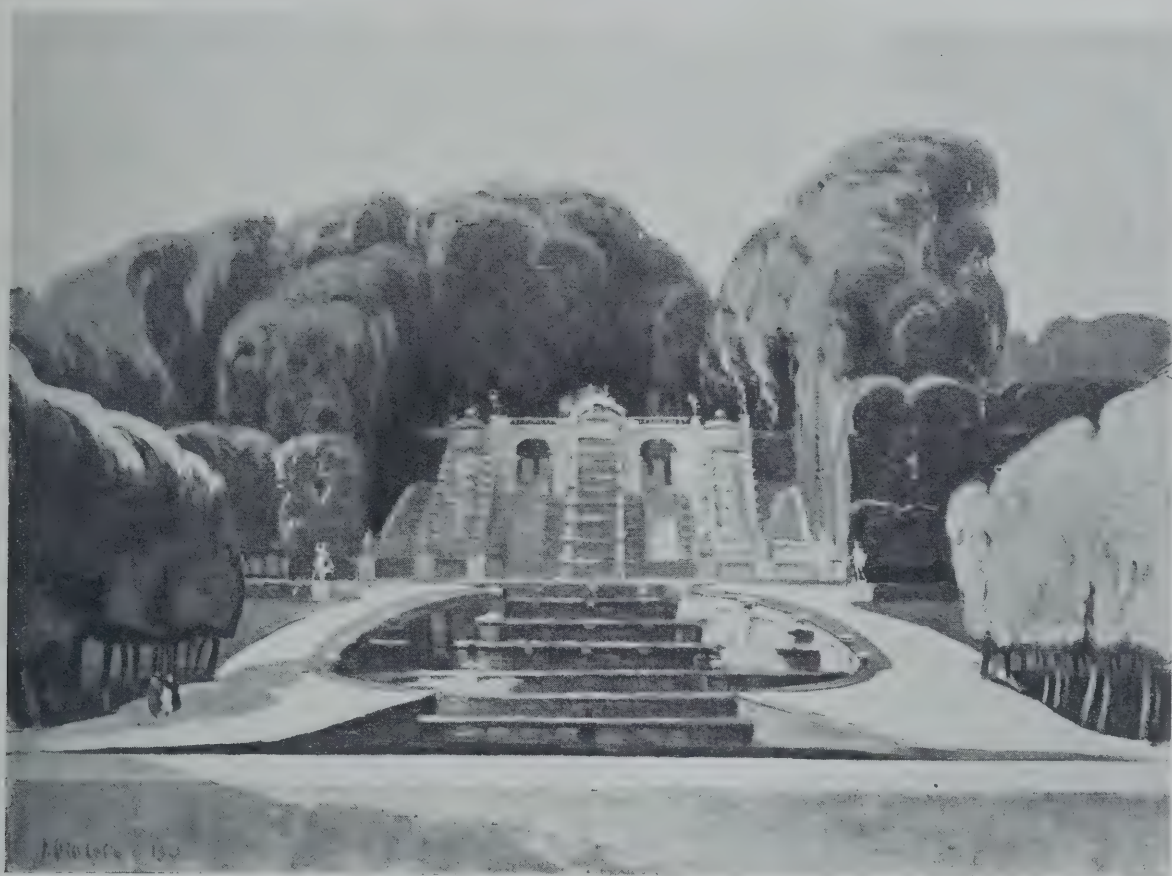
OCTOBER 9, 1875.

THE NEW OPERA-HOUSE.

Great progress during the last three weeks has been made with the new Opera-house, now fast rising, on the Thames Embankment. Mr. Francis Fowler, the architect, has lately visited, for purposes of examination, the great theatres and opera-houses, with the intention of introducing any new feature or adjunct which might add to the safety, comfort, convenience, splendour, or excellence of the building. With this view he has visited the cities of St. Petersburg, Moscow, Berlin, Vienna, Trieste, Milan, Venice, Bologna, Naples, and, lastly, Paris. In all these places he has met approval. His plans and designs for the new London Opera-house everywhere were inspected with the greatest interest, particularly by the Imperial Family of Russia, by the Emperor of Austria and the Archdukes, by the Royal Family of Italy, and by the Crown Princess and the Crown Prince of Germany. Difficult as it may appear to believe in the practicability of such a feat, those best competent to pronounce an opinion—namely, the architect and the contractor (Mr. Webster)—assert that the new National Opera-house can be ready and can be opened on May 2 next, the day which was originally named.

Exhibition of Pictures and Drawings by Officers and Ex-Officers of the Regular Army.

R.B.A. Galleries, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall.



CASCADE, ST. CLOUD. MAJOR JOHN CREALOCK, R.P., late Sherwood Foresters.

This exhibition must be judged as a whole, and as such it most certainly will be recalled to mind as having contained many works of the first rank. Most of the exhibitors have been engaged in duties which have little in common with artistic ideals. Those who are exhibiting in these galleries and many other members of the Army have used

the advantages which their Army activities have afforded them to observe and absorb the beauties of nature. The majority have travelled far and wide, and in this way have had great opportunities. The present exhibition can be characterised as representing the work of members of the executive who have all their lives possessed a keen appreciation for things beautiful and in addition have desires to give expression to these feelings in a tangible way. Many exhibitors have only devoted two or three years in a serious way to art, and in point of view of these circumstances their achievements are all the more remarkable. It is not overstating the fact to write that many young men with all their lives before them would be glad to possess the talent shown by some of these exhibitors.

Nearly 500 exhibits made it quite impossible to inspect each picture with the care that one would like to devote. Amongst the water-colour exhibits some pleasing and varied effects will be found. No. 2, "Alfriston and the Cuckmere," by Captain D. N. Morgan, Royal Artillery, is a truthful rendering of a view frequently seen, the colouring is clean and the painting unaffected. No. 3, "Willows, Leintwardine," by Colonel C. E. Commeline, late Royal Engineers, shows that the artist has in no way lacked courage to handle in an effective way a rather difficult subject. No. 19, "Pender's Dyke, Leintwardine," by the same artist, is not so successful. The quiet repose so well expressed in the former picture is missing. No. 17, "Place Pera," also by the same artist, is, on the other hand, a bright and sunny picture. No. 6, "Cradle Valley," by Captain D. N. Morgan, who is responsible for No. 2 and a number of pictures that are included in this review, did not seem to master the colouring of the distant hill with the road travelling up its side. This feature in the picture is rather flat. The foreground and mid-distance, on the other hand, are quite successfully rendered. No. 5, "On the Jersey Coast," by Colonel M. A. Tuite, late Indian Army, is a pleasing sketch full of sunlight. "Near



THE EMPTY SADDLE.
CAPT. ADRIAN JONES, M.V.O., late R.A.V.C.

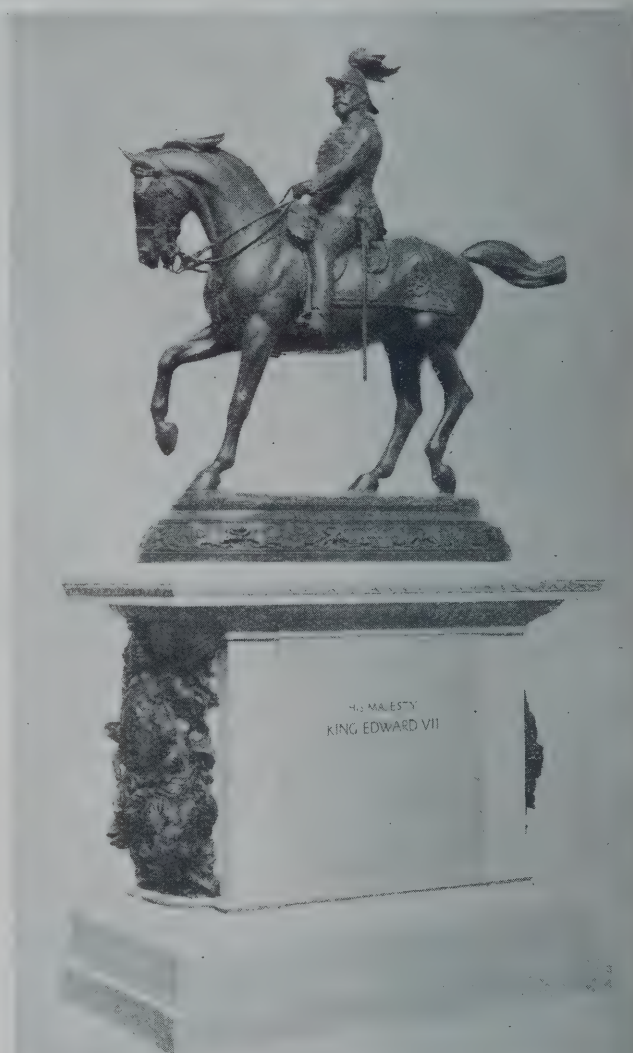
Wootton," No. 11, by Colonel H. M. Jackson, late Royal Engineers, is painted with considerable merit. Additional interest might have been aroused by the introduction of a lighter tone of green right in the foreground. Such a tone would have assisted the effect of sunlight that is conveyed by the sharp and clearly defined tree shadows on the left of the picture.

"Ashdown Forest," by Captain D. N. Morgan, is well painted, the artist has expressed his subject in a free impressionistic manner; details have merely been indicated by suggestive masses. The colour scheme is delightfully simple and full of variety. No. 18, "Cuckmere Valley," and No. 22, "Valley of the Ouse," are not quite on the same level of merit as those previously mentioned, though in his picture titled "Near Swaffham, Norfolk," No. 26, Captain D. N. Morgan has produced a very good effort. "The Downs, Salisbury," No. 32, by Colonel M. A. Tuite, is good. The sky is a little overdone, though this could be easily rectified by lowering the mount. "The Stubble Field," No. 34, by the same artist, also suffers from rather a wild sky but the picture makes a better appeal than No. 32. "A Calm Morning," also by the same artist, is the best effort so far seen by this exhibitor. In fact, the picture is very good in every way, and will constantly give renewed pleasure. "Coast, St. Raphael," by Colonel H. M. Jackson, late Royal Engineers, No. 40, will delight many for its colour quality, the touch of green on the island is quite effective and adds considerable charm to the harmony. Nos. 42 and 48, "Norfolk Windmill" and "South Downs, Lewis," are two very fine paintings by Captain D. N. Morgan. "Wimereux," No. 50, by Colonel W. Johnston, C.B.E., late Royal Engineers, should be carefully studied; the subject is not easy to paint and has in this instance been most successfully rendered. "The Marshes, Cley, Norfolk," No. 52, by Colonel E. M. Jack, C.M.G., D.S.O., late Royal Engineers, is another very truthfully painted subject, deserving of special notice. "Coolie Women, Hong Kong," No. 57, by F. A. Henslowe, Esq., Royal Artillery, is quite a remarkable picture in its way. The artist has relied on strong, well-defined contrasts, and by their means produced an interesting sketch. Nos. 58 and 66 conclude Captain D. N. Morgan's contribution to this room's exhibits; both are amongst his best effort. "Evening, St. Raphael," No. 60, Colonel H. M. Jackson, late R.E., will be appreciated by those who have visited the place. The picture is most faithfully painted and recalls the wonderful colouring so frequently found there. Capt. F. H. Townshend, O.B.E., M.C., Royal Engineers, introduces a new note into the room. No. 59, "Beni Asgeu," is good picture, though the artist has better exhibits in other parts of the gallery. He can be truthfully said to represent the modern form of artistic expression, though none of his paintings are in the futuristic style.

A very effective picture is "Sycamores," No. 65, by Lieut.-Colonel C. S. Nairne, late Seaforth Highlanders. The trees are decoratively rendered, and the effect produced shows the artist to have a very keen and correct sense of drawing. In the North-East Gallery the general quality is well maintained. "On the Mar Canal, Srinagar," No. 72, by Captain C. Borrowman, 4th Gurkha Rifles, brings into the exhibition yet another style and method of painting. By using a tinted paper and resorting to body colours the artist has given us a decorative impression which conveys the realism of the subject very well indeed. Colonel E. M. Jack, C.M.G., D.S.O., late of the Royal Engineers, shows in this gallery two very good pictures; they both illustrate ability in a marked degree: No. 75, "In the Test Valley," and "In the Highlands," No. 101. "The Clock Tower, Dinan," by Colonel T. G. Gayer-Anderson, C.M.G., D.S.O., No. 89, is a charming picture. "Morlaix Viaduct," No. 103, by Major F. A. Wilkinson, late Royal Fusiliers, is strong; the artist has used sharp contrasts effectively. No. 105, "Place Verte," by Douglas Bell, Esq., M.C., late Q.O. Cameron Highlanders, is painted in a poster style. The colouring is good and the effect pleasing if somewhat hard. "Jhelum, Srinagar," No. 121, by the same artist as No. 72, is treated in the same manner

as the former. "Jamrud, Khyber Pass," by Major W. E. Condon, Indian Army, conveys an impression of desolation and strength. The colouring is quite interesting and original.

Major Sir Neville Wilkinson, K.C.V.O., A.R.E., V.P.M.S., is showing a number of subjects on a screen placed before the entrance to the private offices of the secretary. The numbers are 131, 134-7 inclusive. Some of the book-plates are specially noteworthy; one for Colonel the Hon. Charles Lambton, D.S.O., is particularly good in composition. Those for Patricia and George Sidney Herbert are also attractive. No. 136 is a design for a ceiling. The



H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
CAPT. ADRIAN JONES, M.V.O., late R.A.V.C.

panels are illustrative of allegorical subjects. The whole composition and effect are sound.

"Quartier Des Oudayas, Morocco," No. 142, and "Mahommedan Cemetery, Algiers," are by Captain F. H. Townshend, O.B.E., M.C., Royal Engineers. The former is a pleasing picture, decorative in manner, full of imagination. The cemetery is also conventional in style, but has not the same fascinating attraction as the "Quartier Des Oudayas." "Evening on Jellem River," No. 143, by Captain Douglas Dallas, late Jacob's Horse, is a study in blues. The style is also on the decorative side rather than naturalistic. Of the three pictures exhibited on this wall by this artist the above will be judged by many as being the best. No. 149, "Autumn Glow," is rather worried in its general effect, and "Rhododendrons in Kairna Valley," No. 152, though well painted, are rather hard and lacking in interest. Some clever chalk drawings of children by Colonel T. G. Gayer-Anderson, C.M.G., D.S.O., Royal Artillery, are framed in a panel, No. 160.



DESIGN FOR A DECORATED CEILING. MAJOR SIR NEVILLE WILKINSON, K.C.V.O., A.R.E., V.P.M.S.

CENTRAL GALLERY.

In this gallery the oil paintings are hung. Here the test of merit stands free. In this medium the element of accident is entirely ruled out. The artist produces effects from the direct control of his knowledge. Even under this test the exhibitors have produced very good work. It is so simple to pass judgment, so very difficult to produce better pictures. The critic who has never painted in oils has no real understanding of the difficulties. He judges results only and their appeal to his taste. He cannot appreciate an effect from any inner knowledge of its accomplishment. He is incapable of realising the hopes and aims that painters have endeavoured to realise. To him the result makes an appeal either favourable and pleasing or the reverse. In this gallery those who know the difficulties will be able to appreciate how very near many have come towards accomplishing their ideals. Lieut.-Colonel R. H. W. Wilson, D.S.O., late 10th Hussars, in No. 194, "Portrait of a Girl," shows a keen appreciation for simplicity. The picture seems to lack a point of interest. The soul of the sitter does not shine out, but from a technique point of view the portrait can be classified as promising. Nos. 195, 196, 219, 232 and others are by Lieut.-Colonel Owen-Lewis, D.S.O., O.B.E., late Green Howards, "La Joconde," No. 195, is quite a good work of its kind; the details of the face are a trifle harsh. No. 219, "Priscilla," shares with some effectively painted "Nas-turtiums," No. 232, the first place amongst this artist's exhibits. "Priscilla" is a very pleasing portrait of a girl in a frilled cap. The colour scheme selected is ambitious. The whole painting is expressed in delicate, refined colours. No heavy shadows exist, where difficulties can be merged into the background with striking success. The chief fault lies in the treatment of the girl's dress. The folds have not been sufficiently modelled, especially so on the shoulder. The paintings of Major John Crealock,

R.P., late Sherwood Foresters, stand out in sharp contrast to the other pictures, but here we have to deal with the works of a finished artist who is in complete command. Many years of devotion to painting have alone produced these results. No. 208, "Mrs. Hirst," No. 236, "Mrs. Poole," are both fine portraits. The composition in each is good; subsidiary interests have been effectively introduced. No. 205, "Cascade, St. Cloud," and No. 233, "Parc de St. Cloud," illustrate the artist's gifts in rendering landscape subjects.

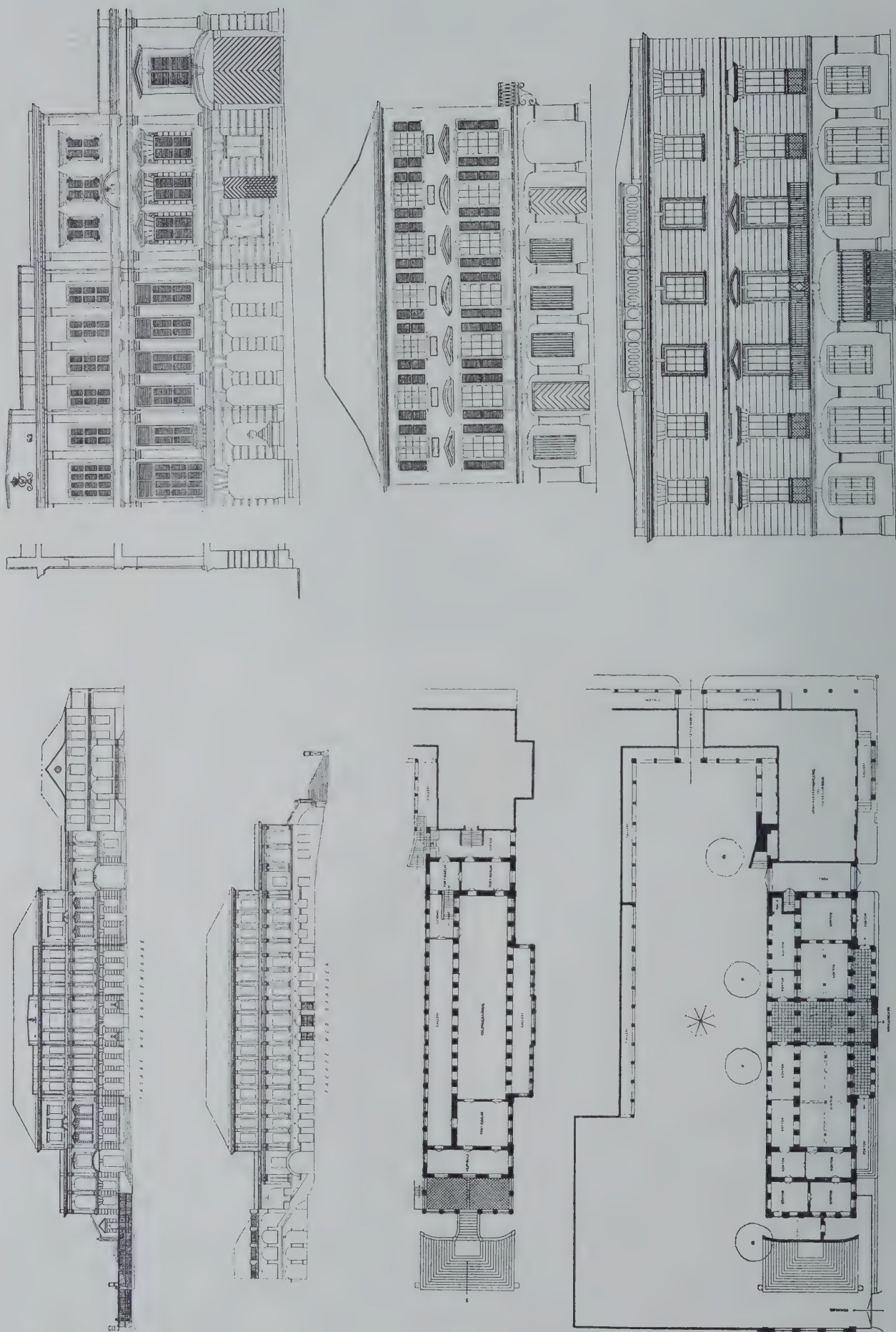
Suggestions have been received from many of the exhibitors that an Association or Society might be formed for the purpose of holding periodical exhibitions of this nature in the future. A meeting, therefore, will be held in these galleries at 5 p.m. on Friday, October 16, to discuss the feasibility of this proposal, and all exhibitors, as well as any other officers and ex-officers interested in the scheme, are invited to attend.

There seems to be a tendency for timber prices to go up again, and from all accounts the next spring's prices will be higher than those ruling to-day.

BRICKS FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—The acting British Consul-General at San Francisco (California) reports that a firm in that State desire to receive quotations for common bricks, fire bricks and enamelled bricks. United Kingdom firms desirous of offering quotations in this case can obtain all available particulars of the enquiry upon application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen Street, London, S.W.1.

STOCKTON.—The Borough Engineer has prepared plans for the additional new building and enlargement of the Isolation Hospital. The scheme, which is now awaiting the approval of the Ministry of Health, is estimated to cost £12,500.

SHEFFIELD.—Messrs. Peacock & Bewlay, architects, Colmore Row, Birmingham, have a scheme on hand for the erection of a new Church at Darnall for the Rev. L. B. Heptenstall, of St. Alban's Church.



GOVERNMENT OFFICES, ST. CROIX, CHRISTIANSTED; ALSO ELEVATIONS OF PENTHENY'S HOTEL AND A PRIVATE HOUSE IN STRANDGADE.
CONTEMPORARY DANISH ARCHITECTURE.

From "Architekten," August, 1925.

Japanese Architecture.

By W. G. Blaikie Murdoch.

Japan is a country of fine architecture, rather than a country of great architects. Pondering, say, on the Greek school of building, there come to mind the names of men individually famous. Writing on the French school, it would be indispensable to enlarge on the exploits of de l'Orme and Gabriel and Bellanger. But of the architects in historic Nippon, there is scarcely one who is remembered by name. Although the Island Empire, like other lands, has certain edifices renowned as specially beautiful, her builders were largely content to echo one another. And so it comes about that the wanderer in Japan is prone to find himself musing, less on the excellence of particular achievements than on the loveliness of the architecture in general.

In the mid-sixth century A.D., the Japanese were still essentially primitive. Their religion was Shintō, which teaches that the Mikados rule by divine right, and calls on men to pray to an extensive pantheon, also to their own dead ancestors. But Shintō embodies no moral code, makes no demand for charitable deeds. Its holy of holies was a group of shrines in the province of Isē, far in the south of Itondo, main isle of the Japanese archipelago. These fanes are all virtually similar, each being a single-storeyed cottage with gabled roof covered with thatch. And the approach to them is spanned by an archway, composed of two uprights of timber, surmounted by a pair of crossbars of the same. Who would have thought that a country, boasting no finer architecture than these cottages, would soon be opulent in graceful buildings?

It is hardly an exaggeration to say that, in Japan, whatsoever things are beautiful owe their advent to Buddhism. Rightly called the Light of Asia, this creed travelled in the first century A.D. from its homeland of India to China. Next, it became a force in Korea; and it was in 552 that King Myong of Kudara, in Korea, sent to the Japanese Imperial Court a Buddhist sculpture, along with a letter extolling the Indian religion. The people of Nippon were afraid, that to welcome the alien cult would incense the gods of Shintō. And only a very few converts to Buddhism had been gained, only a very few Buddhist temples raised, on the birth in 572 of Prince Shotoku. Brilliant from his childhood, a scholar, a writer, a musician, he marked well the ennobling capacity of the religion from overseas, with its doctrine that salvation of the soul is attainable through mental development, and by striving to practise a lofty charity. In 593 Shotoku commenced to rule Japan as Regent; presently he was hurling vast energies into the furtherance of the Light of Asia. He carved Buddhist images; he wrote essays on the Buddhist Scriptures. And fine Japanese architecture begins with the day of the talented Prince.

To see his country possessed of a temple, truly worthy of the religion he loved, was the dream of the young Regent. And the outcome was Hōriuji, near Nara, which town is not far from the Isē shrines. In his enthusiasm, Prince Shotoku contrived to summon Korean artificers to help him. And consequently in style Hōriuji is similar to Buddhist fanes raised just before it in Korea, these in turn being similar to the coeval analogous structures in China. Hōriuji is a group of buildings, some of them being joined to the ambulatories which form a square, wherein stand independently the pagoda and the *kondo* or main hall of devotions. The pagoda is 112 feet high, the *kondo* 58. It has a double roof, the upper or crowning part being a hip-gable. Both of the two roofs have a slight inward curve, and a bronze bell hangs from each of the eight eave-points. The clerestorey, if such it may be called, for there are no windows in it, is surrounded by a balcony with wooden taffrail. Alike in the pagoda and the *kondo*, there is a short base of stonework, the walls above which are of whitish plaster, with stout wooden frames greatly salient. In the other buildings in the group, again the walls are of whitish plaster, with prominent wooden frames. And everywhere woodwork is painted red; everywhere

roofs are covered with tiles, dark grey, almost black. How wonderful the whole beautiful place must have seemed to people unfamiliar with any architecture more ambitious than the rude shrines of Isē.

In 708 Nara was chosen as metropolis. Soon the current civilisation of the Asiatic mainland was wholly espoused by the Japanese of the upper classes. Buddhism took a firm hold with that section of the community, and numerous Buddhist temples were built, in particular at Nara. Henceforth such places were nearly always groups of buildings, not single structures, and in the eighth century the Hōriuji formula was invariably used. In 794 the capital was removed to Kyoto. And it was about this date that the Buddhist clergy, sanctioning the Shintō practice of offering prayer to ancestors, preached that the Shintō gods were really identical with personages in the Buddhist pantheon. The dual faith thus created, a Buddhism which had absorbed the indigenous Japanese cult quickly became the universal religion in Japan. There was further raising of temples, and if occasionally the woodwork was left brown, instead of being painted red as at Prince Shotoku's fane, otherwise the Hōriuji style remained the vogue. There was a strong tendency to put the new houses of prayer, not actually in Kyoto but in the vicinity. For it was held that a sequestered scene, by preference among mountains, and rich in trees, inclined to stimulate devotional feelings. Of ecclesiastical edifices which were built in accordance with this theory, one which was long specially renowned is Kiyomidzudera. It was begun in 805, and nowadays the south-eastern outskirts of Kyoto almost touch it. Why is it famous?

The spot which was selected for Kiyomidzudera is on the very brink of a steep glen. The architect conceived the plan of making a big scaffolding, which rises from near the foot of the glen. He knew well that the trees would ere long grow up, partially hiding this erection. It supports the front of the temple, the woodwork of which is in brown. And far from having an aspect of the precarious, as might be supposed, Kiyomidzudera looks a natural thing. It does not owe its celebrity to its formula, since that is in no way phenomenal, apart from the big scaffolding. The renown is due to the harmony of the temple with its picturesque environment. And, in reflecting such harmony, the fane is emblematic of many others in Nippon. The aspirational Western master thinks to design a building completely appropriate to a given site. The old masters in hieratic architecture in Japan sought to find a site completely appropriate to a building of given size. Beauty should pertain, they contended, not to the temple alone, but to the whole spot of which it was a part. These men might almost be described as architectural decorators of landscape.

If little is known about the Japanese masses in eras immediately subsequent to the choosing of Kyoto as capital, there is ample record that exceptionally refined ways obtained then with the upper classes. A gentleman was scarcely thought such unless able to paint a picture, or write a poem, which accomplishments were common with the ladies too. And of the domestic architecture which emanated from this refined life there remains one, though apparently only one, relic, Byōdu-in, near Kyoto. For although the place is to-day a Buddhist temple, it was originally the home of Minamoto Tōru, who lived from 822 till 895, and was a scion of a ducal family. Whence it may logically be assumed that his house is symbolic of the dwellings of other noblemen of his generation. Crimson paint was never put on private houses; its use was always restricted to temples. But waiving the fact that its woodwork is in brown, Byōdu-in is closely akin to Hōriuji.

It is not surprising that the mansions, raised coevally with Minamoto Tōru's, should all have vanished. Politics gradually became stormy; in 1156 a vast civil war broke out. It was clear to the victorious commander, Yoritomo, that the disturbed state of Nippon rendered needful a

military dictatorship. And in 1192 he contrived to get such instituted, himself its head with the title of Shogun or General. Prior to the war, with so high a refinement widespread, soldiers had been little esteemed, their social status low. Now, conversely, they were the all-important class. Spartanism and martial prowess were adored, and the new strenuous spirit evoked a departure in sacred building. Soon the main tendency with the architects was to employ the old formula with a new plainness. Bronze bells were seldom if ever hung at eave-points; crimson paint on timber was exceedingly unusual; roofs were frequently covered with thatch, in place of tiles. Ever since the memorable founding of Hōriuji the clump of structures forming a temple had usually included a pagoda. With the novel stand for simplicity, towers of that description ceased wholly, or almost wholly, to be built. In the thirteenth century it was at Kamakura that the erection of fanes was carried on with particular activity. And Engakuji and Kenchoji are two there which typify the movement of that era.

The military dictatorship did not pass away with Yoritomo's death. Inasmuch as Buddhism had not ousted the ancient Shintō theory that the Mikados ruled by divine right, they were not literally dethroned. But they no longer had any power, the real legislative authority being the Shogunate. In 1348, it became an hereditary office with the family of Ashikaga, and presently Japan entered on a fresh period of disturbance. The Ashikaga dictators were incapable of preventing the barons from waging war on one another. Owing to the ceaseless internecine strife the commonalty suffered dire privation; Kyoto and neighbourhood were devastated; the raising of temples waned. But it was out of this turbulence with the nobles, the determination with nearly each of them to be a law unto himself, that there sprang the beautiful exploit, Japanese castellated architecture. The castle of Itimeji, not far from Kobē, was begun in 1350; that of Yedo, nowadays called Tōkio, in 1457; and the golden age of fortress building continued till the close of the sixteenth century.

Like the ecclesiastical architects, the builders of castles did not aim at originality. They had just the one formula, and it may be briefly defined as the Hōriuji style, carried out in stone instead of in wood and plaster. A Japanese castle is a group of buildings spread over an area generally of some acres. The central edifice or keep has three or four storeys and a series of roofs as in a pagoda, the top one being a hip-gable. These roofs are of dark grey tiles, almost black, the stone walls being white. The keep has a massive base of grey stonework, with outward slope, and the outpost houses are small versions of the keep. Some with two storeys, some with merely one, these minor houses are mostly perched on the colossal embankments of the moats. The embankments are replicas of the base of the keep, built as they are in grey stonework, with outward slope. Invariably, at either end of the ridge-pole, in every building in the group, there is a sculpture of a dolphin with tail in air. At Nagoya Castle, some sixty miles east of Kyoto, the two dolphins on the keep are gilded. At Yedo Castle all the dolphins are of bronze, their colour accordingly green. The keep of Nagoya is about 110 feet high, including the base, the keep of Yedo being only, say, two-thirds of that height. But Yedo is surely the finest of all the Japanese strongholds.

The walk round Yedo Castle occupies about an hour and a half. The grounds are hilly and rich in trees. At least one part of the moats is a natural lake, and here and there the moats are spanned by brown timber bridges, a charming shape with their slight upward curve. But it is neither the fine contour of the keep and other buildings, nor yet the rare colour-harmony which each of the buildings presents, which constitutes indeed the key to the splendour attained. As with the ecclesiastical architects, so, too, with the builders of fortresses, there was a talent for making things look a natural part of the site, which talent is notably illustrated by Yedo Castle. Through having such extensive and varied precincts, it offers a whole succession of

prospects, in which nature and architecture have been combined, to fashion a glorious picture. At some points the picture is rugged, at some gentle. At some its impressiveness lies partly in one or other of the buildings involved being discerned from a great distance. And all the pictures are the lovelier because water figures in them. The architect, with a wide, romantic scene at his disposal, has chosen what appears to be exactly the ideal place for each of his various structures. His achievement is a panorama, his panorama an epic.

Of unfortified dwellings which date from before the seventeenth century, there remain only a very few. Among such are Kinkagu and Ginkagu, both near Kyoto. The first-named was the country seat of the third Ashikaga Shogun, in office from 1367 to 1395; the other house belonged to the eighth ruler of that line, who abdicated in 1474. And it may therefore be presumed of these places, as of Byōdo-in, that they are typical of the best manorial architecture of their period. Although Kinkagu was originally a cluster of buildings, there survives now only the one big structure. Its roof is covered, not with tiles, but with brown shingles, and is pyramidal, the idea of which shape was doubtless derived from the pyramidal crests of pagodas. Ginkagu still consists in a cluster, one of the houses being closely similar to that described above, while the others are in the time-honoured Hōriuji mode. But if in the days of the Ashikaga Shogunate there was but slight evolution in the sphere of manorial building, the two old Shogunal homes remind sharply that no tribute to Japanese architecture would be complete unless it included homage to Japanese landscape gardening. For if the finest of the temples and castles claim obeisance, largely by reason of their harmony with their surroundings of forest, hill and lake, similarly Kinkagu and Ginkagu win admiration, perhaps chiefly through the fine accord of each with its garden. This last, at both places, is enlivened by a miniature lake. And, at either establishment, it is felt that the architect conceived house and garden as one. Like Kiyomizudera on the brink of its glen, the houses have well-nigh the look of having risen of their own accord.

It must have seemed to many people, as the seventeenth century opened, that the shadow of the sword would hang for ever over Nippon, but a better destiny was in store for the land. In 1603 the Shogunate was acquired by Iyeyasu; the office was made hereditary with his family, the Tokugawa; and there was chosen as seat of Shogunal legislation Yedo, although the Mikados continued to reside at Kyoto. Iyeyasu proved himself a statesman of genius; he broke the turbulence of the barons. He gave Japan at length an effective central government, its stability continuing after the great legislator himself was gone. On his death a mausoleum to him was erected, an ornate building, however. And, in the history of architecture, the real significance of Iyeyasu is that, through the peace he brought after long centuries of turmoil, many tradespeople came to have wealth, and the toiling myriads a very considerable degree of comfort. Whence, in a little, all or nearly all people in the Sunrise Land had houses of high quality as art. Is there any other country where fine architecture was thus rendered universal?

Nevertheless, this remarkable civilisation, in the Tokugawa period, was not exactly a new thing. What happened was simply the spreading, through the entire community, of that civilisation which, coming to Nippon ages before Buddhism, had been till Iyeyasu's day, current only among the upper classes. Nor did the Tokugawa period look on any actual development in architectural styles. In elevations in the Hōriuji mode the constructional items are themselves decorative, the decorative themselves constructional; and the Japanese architects were too wise to forsake so excellent a formula. In the houses built for the rich there was seldom a stone base, as at Hōriuji; and there was frequently an innovation, namely, a big porch with convex roof. But otherwise, waiving the fact that their woodwork was left brown, these new dwellings were closely similar to the Hōriuji *Kondo*. And it was exceptional to make them much bigger than that

historic fane. Sometimes roofs were covered, not with the grey tiles, but with brown shingles as at Kinkagu, and thatched roofs were common on cottages in rural districts. Nevertheless, if it was phenomenal for the dwellings of the humbler folk to have the porch, as a general rule, those homes were just small versions of the establishments of the rich.

With their welcome emancipation from the horrors of baronial war the commonalty began to ask for gaieties. And, consequently, a great many restaurants were built in Yedo. Often they had a garden, fair as that at Ginkagu. Frequently, as at that old Shogunal mansion, the garden was enlivened by a miniature lake. Occasionally this was spanned by a little bridge with upward curve, like the bridges at Yedo Castle. And in sundry cases the architect, borrowing further from the castellated school, decorated the restaurant by setting at either end of the ridge-pole a sculpture of a dolphin with tail in air. In numerous instances these pleasure houses were made taller than the encircling buildings, the former possibly having three storeys in place of the customary two. Through their resultant salience the restaurants show forth well how fine an idea are dolphins on the ridge-pole, creating as they do an exquisite line. Through their salience the restaurants serve to emphasise how beautiful a device is the double roof with slight inward curves.

With interiors, as with elevations, the Japanese architects did not aim at being original. In the Tokugawa period the rooms of the humble were small versions of the rooms of the wealthy. And, entering a house of that era, it is at once marked that the beauty of the general effect is largely owing to the reiteration of the straight line and the right angle. The wooden shafts, which form the framework of the house itself, are always square in circumference, as too are the wooden shafts which, running from the outer edge of the verandah to the balcony, are carried upwards again to the eaves. A great part of the wall-space consists in sliding doors on the ground-floor, and sliding windows on the upper floor. In either case the things are made with a network of unstained lathes, which, forming a series of equal-sized squares or equal-sized oblongs, have translucent paper of creamy shade pasted over them. When the doors and windows are drawn wide open, a prominence of the sharpest is acquired by those shafts of the framework which are at the corners of the house. For those shafts have for the time being nothing at either side of them. And they and the other square uprights, passing from verandah through balcony to eaves, have a charming unity of character, with the interminable rectangles of the sliding doors and windows.

This linear simplicity is finely echoed by reticence in colouring. The ceiling is in brownish wood; the floors are covered with light yellow matting. Those parts of the walls which are not doors or windows, are papered a neutral tint. And it is common to divide a storey into several rooms, merely by sliding screens made of opaque paper, these screens generally bearing pictorial decoration. Every room has a *tokonoma* or recess, which encloses a platform, say 4 in. high. This makes a handy receptacle for tea-utensils and the like, and within the *tokonoma* hangs the sole independent picture. Through the practice of squatting on the floor, furniture is virtually non-existent; and the mattresses used for beds are kept by day in wall cupboards with sliding doors of wood or paper, perhaps bearing pictorial ornamentation. Handles are conspicuous by their absence, the doors and windows being grasped just by the lathe itself. And the partition screens and cupboard fronts have tiny indentations, lined with metal, sometimes sculptured in low relief. In short, with interiors even more than with elevations, the Japanese school constrained the useful things to be the beautiful, the beautiful to be the useful. Fair as the typical Japanese house is without, perhaps it is lovelier still within.

As was natural, the peace brought by the Tokugawa government resulted in a huge renewal of activity in the raising of Buddhist temples. Yedo was the main scene of such work, and most of the architects there and elsewhere confronted resolutely the love of plainness, which had been

the ruling taste with the hieratic builders, on the eve of the stormy Ashikaga times. The projecting ends of beams, above doorways, were often carved into leonine heads; there were introduced as parts of walls, panels of wood, carved in openwork. The thatched roof was no longer employed, favour reverting to the tiles in dark grey, almost black. And occasionally, on the edges of eaves there were set floral reliefs in metal, bearing gilt, which reliefs have a background of *shakudo*, an amalgam of deep black hue, being composed principally of copper. Pagodas came into fashion once again; there was widely revived the use of crimson paint on woodwork; and this revival was wise in the extreme, so beautiful is the harmony which red buildings make amid the encircling greenery of trees. On an islet in Shinobazu Lake, Yedo, there is perched a tiny temple, Benzai Ten; the islet is reached by a bridge with upward curve. And on the wooded heights to the east of the lake are two further temples, one with a pagoda beside it. With their woodwork aglow with red, these buildings adorn wonderfully the scene, making of the marge of Shinobazu one of the fairest spots in all Yedo. And the buildings have something of the guise of having grown up at a wizard's spell. Here, in Tokugawa years, was the characteristic old Japanese achievement still going forward. Ecclesiastical architects had still the talent for creating what appears "an house not built with hands."

Although within the *kondo* at Horiuji there are frescoes, the idea of such decoration did not captivate the Japanese mind; and mural paintings are exceedingly unusual in the Buddhist fanes. But of the various ways of arranging the interiors of such places there are two which are greatly noteworthy. In most temples the main hall of orisons is oblong, light coming chiefly if not exclusively from the entrance, which is in one of the longer walls. In the mode which may be called A, the back part of the hall, otherwise that towards which the worshippers look on entering, has two alcoves, standing parallel with the shorter walls. These alcoves are at either extremity, the altar being in front of the outstanding part between them, and it follows that the light is tolerably strong on the altar, whereas it inclines to the dusky on either side of it. In the mode which may be called B, the arrangement is reversed. The part of the hall towards which the worshippers look on entering has in the centre an alcove, the altar standing inside it, right at the back. And it follows that the light is tolerably strong on each side of the altar, whereas this itself inclines to be dusky. An air of mystery is the all-important thing within a sacerdotal edifice. And in both those Japanese plans the air of mystery is attained simply by *chiaroscuro*.

Early in the seventeenth century the Shogunal government forbade commerce with the Occident. But as the eighteen-hundreds neared meridian, certain Western countries began to threaten force if the Island Empire did not enter into trade with them. The Shogunal Government, so valuable since Iyeyasu's day, proved itself incompetent to deal with the unexpected situation. There grew up a revolutionary party, who took as their slogan the ancient Shintō theory that the Mikados ruled by divine right. Thus, in 1867-68, when the Shogunate was torn down and the Mikados restored to power, it was proclaimed that Shintō was the State religion. Through the long eras, in which that faith and Buddhism had been linked, there were still raised places, exclusively for the ancestral cult. Often, there were posed outside these places, sculptures of lions, their effect grandly decorative, notably when the lions were perched on rugged masses of rock. It has been seen, however, that the lion figures in Buddhist architecture. There were, in fact, numerous other things, constructional and ornamental, which the Shintō architects borrowed from that same source. It was therefore realised, by the revolutionary or monarchist party, whose dream was that the Shintō temples should be quite other from the Buddhist, that the former could not of a sudden be divested wholly of all that savoured of the Indian creed. Is it possible nowadays to distinguish at a glance the one class of sacred edifices from the other?

At the Shintō shrines of Isē mentioned at the outset of

these pages as having particular sanctity, each of the buildings has, lying horizontally across the ridge-pole, a series of short, thick logs. Each of the buildings has at either end of the ridge-pole, two spars which project obliquely into the air, which spars are simply the continued ends of the four rafters at the two ends of the gable. If, no doubt, the horizontal logs and projecting spars had utilitarian origin, they came to be viewed as having religious significance. And to-day, wherever they occur, they mark the place involved as a Shintō one. There are numerous fanes of that creed which have not these insignia, while other fanes may nevertheless at once be recognised as pertaining to the old, ancestral cult. It was told that, at Isē, the approach is spanned by a *torii*, a simple kind of arch. And nowadays the approach to seemingly all shrines of Shintō is spanned by one of those arches. This is purely a Shintō device, never to be found at Buddhist halls. But it is difficult not to be angry with Japan for turning officially against Buddhism. For what would her art have been without the Light of Asia? There are still in the Land of Sunrise some 70,000 temples of that religion, and long may they stand.

Book Notes.

"French Cathedrals. Amiens, Chartres, Paris, Rouen." By Jocelyn Perkins, M.A., etc. 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ by 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ in. The Sheldon Press, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2. 4d. each net.

The publishers are to be highly commended for the production and publication of these booklets at such a very low cost.

The booklets are arranged in a similar manner. A historical sketch is followed by the dimensions of the building. Another table gives the building dates of the present and previous cathedrals on the same site. This is followed by a list of the special features recommended to notice. Each booklet contains a number of reproductions from good photographs, which with the text are well printed. Examining the booklet on Amiens we read that the present edifice was designed by Robert de Luzarches architect, and was completed in 1288. The first Christian missionary to this region, whose existence is supported by any historical evidence, is St. Firmin of Pampeluna, A.D. 301.

In the booklet on Rouen Cathedral a list of the monuments is included and the features of special note are tabulated under the title of Historical Notes. The illustrations of the cathedral are very clear considering their size.

The Chartres booklet is perhaps not quite so well illustrated. The prints are on the dark side. True, the photographing of the interior is difficult in the extreme.

Notre Dame is dealt with in a very representative manner on page one, as a headpiece. A view of the apse is included. A view of the west front occupies page 2, and on page 5 the entrance to the choir is illustrated from a good photograph.

Views of the interior looking east, La porte Rouge, west front of the cathedral, left door, and sculptural details under the title of Grotesques are illustrated on the four central pages of the booklet. A further plate is devoted to grotesques and a fine reproduction from a photograph of the south aisle completes the pictures and the booklet on page 16.

Kaye's Portland Cement.

Owing to the remarkable claims made on behalf of aluminous cement (not Portland cement) which has been introduced into this country from the Continent, it is noteworthy to lay special stress on the fact that Kaye's cement is, and always has been of high efficiency. In two days Kaye's cement possesses a hardness nearly double that required by usual specifications in one week and as time goes on so the strength of Kaye's cement increases.

Boyle's Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilators have been applied to the Whyte Melville Hall, Northampton. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle and Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Building Construction Plates.

Mr. C. A. Harding, A.R.I.B.A., architect, has prepared a more advanced set of building construction plates which will be published in "The Illustrated Carpenter and Builder" during the autumn and winter months. It will be remembered that Mr. Harding's first set of plates were much appreciated by teachers and students; the latter greatly benefited by their study in connection with their preparation for the examinations on this subject. Next April another examination will take place and in order to assist instructors "The Illustrated Carpenter and Builder" offer to send absolutely free of charge copies of the journal containing the first of the building construction plates and the first of the carpentry and joinery articles. All applications should state clearly how many copies the instructor can distribute to advantage. Letters should be addressed to "The Illustrated Carpenter and Builder," 8 Temple Avenue, London, E.C.4.

Smoky Chimneys and Their Correction.

The smoky chimney is never a very simple matter to correct. The first procedure is to ascertain the most likely cause of the trouble. Some of the main reasons are that the height of neighbouring buildings which have been erected at a later date have caused air pockets which influence the air currents in an adverse way and thus cause draught and smoky chimneys. Low buildings surrounded by trees are frequently troubled by the nuisance. Too straight flues is often another cause.

Structural rectification is in nearly every case impossible and seeing that effective correction can be obtained by the addition of a suitable cowl, the difficulties in the hands of an expert appear very simple indeed. Messrs. G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., Woolwich Road, London, S.E.7, have sent us a Sectional Catalogue, No. 337, which deals exclusively with this firm's activities in the efficient correction of smoky chimneys. The catalogue contains a very comprehensive selection of patterns well illustrated. Sections of certain patterns are included showing their internal structure. Some patterns are fitted with valves, elbows and revolving cowls of many different designs. Messrs. G. A. Harvey have left no stone unturned in their endeavour to meet every conceivable case in an efficient manner.

The current issue of "The Autocar" contains a complete guide to the car and coachwork exhibits at the Olympia Motor Show. Every make of vehicle is described, particular attention being paid to innovations and improvements. Although many of the secrets of the Show have by now been revealed, there are many details of improvement that are not apparent to the uninitiated, but which will well repay closer investigation. In "The Autocar" emphasis is laid on the points which should be observed when consideration is being given to the purchase of a new car, particularly in the case of those who are now taking up motoring for the first time. There is also a price classification of 1926 model cars and many helpful articles for the guidance of prospective car buyers. The issue is greatly enlarged and contains numerous illustrations in line and half-tone.

Those of our readers who are interested in motoring—and probably to-day there are few who are not—should look out for "The Autocar," which contains a Buyers' Guide of 1926 Models. It can be obtained at any newsagent or bookstall at a cost of sixpence. "The Autocar" not only deals each week with the larger cars but also with the small car, and contains many a valuable hint for the owner-driver.

We regret to receive the news of the death of Mr. H. O. Strong, the founder and chairman of H. O. Strong & Sons, Ltd., of Norfolk Works, St. Paul's, Bristol. For some years past the control of the business has been in the hands of Mr. A. G. Strong, the managing director, and this will be continued as hitherto.

WALTHAMSTOW.—A revised scheme has now been prepared by the Essex Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school for boys at Walthamstow at a cost of £42,626.

YORK.—The Housing Committee are seeking the permission of the Ministry of Health to invite tenders for the erection of 406 houses to complete the Tang Hall estate.—Messrs. Wm. Birch & Sons, Ltd., have asked the Corporation to consider the erection of houses on the Winget system and the Housing Committee have asked the firm to submit plans and prices for a pair or block of four such houses.—The Commercial Development Committee are considering means to obtain new factories in the city.—Plans passed: petrol tanks and sheds, James Street, for British Petroleum Co., Ltd.; office and garage, Piccadilly, for Mr. G. W. Air; alterations, G.N.R. Hotel, Railway Street, for Smith's Tadcaster Brewery Co., Ltd.; additions to machine shop, Peasholme Green, for Messrs. Adam's Hydraulics, Ltd.; additions to premises, Hull Road, for York Engineering & Foundry Co., Ltd.

Dry Rot

Menace to New Houses

In these days when new buildings are rising rapidly everywhere in town and country the widespread danger of the dry rot fungus cannot be considered too seriously.

A writer in "The Times" recently called for more research into the ravages of this dread fungus—but research is unnecessary if every piece of wood is treated with Solignum—the scourge could be entirely stamped out in ten years—millions of pounds sterling saved at little cost.

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General News.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The Manchester & County Bank, Ltd., King Street, Manchester, are to erect new branch premises in Stamford Street. The plans have been prepared by Messrs. Mills & Murgatroyd, architects, 23 Street Street, Manchester, and the contract has been placed with E. Marshall & Sons, Ltd., builders and joiners, Cockbrook.—The Lancashire Education Authorities at Preston are proceeding with the scheme for the erection of a new secondary school on a site in Darnton Street. Plans have been prepared by Mr. H. Littler, county architect, 16 Ribblesdale Place, Preston. Contract placed with the same contractor.—The members of the Ashton Conservative Club are to erect new additions to the existing buildings and also a new frontage. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Eaton, Son & Cantrill, architects, Stamford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne. Contractors, E. Marshall & Sons, Ltd., Cockbrook.—The Parochial Church Council of St. James the Apostle are proposing relaying the chancel floor in black and white marble and the redecoration of the edifice. Contract has been placed with Messrs. George Hulley & Sons.

ATHERTON.—Messrs. Megee, Marshall & Co., Ltd., brewers, of Bolton, Lancs., are intending to rebuild the "Blue Bell" Hotel. The plans have been prepared by Messrs. J. C. Prestwich & Sons, architect, Bradshawgate, Leigh, and the contract has been let to Mr. J. S. Norbury, builder, Warrington Place, Atherton.

AUDENSHAW.—The U.D.C. have decided to subsidise a further 30 houses.—Plans passed: grinding room, Canning Street, for Universal Rubber Paviers, Ltd.; petrol pump and tank, Bye Street, for Mr. Pritt.

BARKING TOWN.—Messrs. C. J. Dawson, Son & Allardyce, architects, Clock House Chambers, have been asked to prepare plans for new buildings at the generating station, the cost being estimated at about £5,000.—Gates and fences are to be erected around the market in the Broadway.—Plans passed: 60 houses, Cecil Estate, for Mr. Chas. Gray; 26 houses, Wilmington Gardens, for Messrs. E. Glenny & Son; 8 houses, Hulse Avenue, for Mrs. I. Leftley, builders, 86 North Street; 9 shops and houses, Longbridge Road, for Mr. G. A. Ball; 4 houses, Hurstborne Gardens, for Mr. H. Samborough; 6 garages, St. Andrews Road, for Mr. S. B. Hearn; alterations, Spotted Dog, for Messrs. Courage & Co., Ltd.; rebuilding Bull Hotel, East Street, 3 shops and houses, Ripple Road, for Messrs. E. Glenny & Sons; 6 houses, Strathfield Gardens, for Mr. H. Samborough.

BECONTREE.—A site for a fourth elementary school on the Becontree estate has been acquired by the Essex Education Committee. Provision will be made for 1,050 scholars and the estimated cost is £29,000.—It is also proposed to secure a site for a school to be erected on another section of the estate now in course of development.

BIRKENHEAD.—Lock-up garages are to be erected in connection with the premises of the Mount Motor Co. in Claugton Firs.

CANVEY.—Essex County Architect has prepared plans for extra class rooms at the Canvey Island elementary school at a cost of £3,945.

DERBY.—A scheme is now nearing maturity for the erection of a new Wesleyan Church and Sunday Schools for the Wesleyan Sydon, and a contract will shortly be placed. Architects, Messrs. Brocklehurst & Co., 10 Norfolk Street, Manchester.

DEVON.—Property adjoining the hospital has been acquired for adaptation for staff accommodation at a cost of £4,200.—The Education Committee have decided upon the provision of a new school at Kentisbury.—The Committee are considering the erection of permanent buildings to replace wooden structures at Hawkmoor sanatorium.

DUDLEY.—The Corporation are selling a site in Wellington Road to the Priory Motor Co., for the erection of a showroom and garage.—Plans passed: store, High Street, for Messrs. T. Naylor & Sons, Ltd.; additions to premises, Churchfield Street, for Mr. R. W. Manning.—The Housing Committee recommend the offer of Messrs. William Cooper & Sons, Blackheath, to erect 50 additional type A houses on the Cradley Road estate at £22,567.

EASTBOURNE.—The Corporation are seeking sanction to borrow £4,880 for the purchase of land at the Crumbles for a housing site.—Sanction is to be sought for a loan of £2,780 for a Corporation depot at Bedfordwell.—Sub-station buildings are to be erected at Hampton Park at a cost of £600.—The Borough Engineer is to interview the Ministry of Transport regarding a proposal to widen the Old Beachy Head road.—The widening of Willingdon Road is proposed at a cost of £8,700.—Messrs. North, Robin & Wilsdon, architects, 35-39 Maddox Street, W.1, have prepared a tentative plan for a large building in Victoria Place.—Mr. B. Stevens, architect, 24 Cornfield Road, Eastbourne,

has prepared plans for a new road on the Chatfield estate.—The Borough Engineer has prepared detailed plans for the erection of the motor bus garage extension.

HASTINGS.—Consent has been obtained to borrow £50,000 on further account for works in connection with the construction of the White Rock Pavilion.—Plans passed: 15 garages, York Road, for Mr. H. W. Coussens, architect, 35 Havelock Road; additions, Victoria Inn, Battle Road, for Mr. P. H. Oxley, architect, 29 Havelock Road, for Messrs. Breeds & Co.; house, Stanley Road, for Mr. H. M. Jeffery, architect, 1B Havelock Road.

HENSWORTH.—The Hensworth and South Kirby Miners Welfare Committee have selected a design for the modern hospital to be erected on a site adjoining South Moor Lane. The architects are Messrs. Garside & Pennington, of Ropergate, Pontifract.

HOOLEY HILL.—Messrs. Nobletts, Ltd., Tanners, Audenshaw, are to erect 12 houses on Ash Street and Sydmouth Street for their workpeople. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Burton Percival & Lever, architects, Stamford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne. Contracts placed with Messrs. David Turner & Sons, builders, Denton.

HORNSEY.—The Joint Hospital Committee recommend a scheme for extension at the hospital at a cost of £30,000. The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the provision of a further 229 houses on the Muswell Hill estate, but have asked the Corporation to proceed in the first place by erecting one hundred.—Mr. H. Carter Pegg, architect, 35 Parliament Street, S.W., has prepared a layout of the site at Coldfall for the erection of a school.—Plans passed: 37 houses in Cherry Tree Road, 33 in Park View Road, and 9 in Summerlee Avenue, for Mr. Francis William Walker, The Broadway, Church End, Finchley; 5 houses, Page's Hill, for Mr. William Ellyatt, 142 Colney Hatch Lane; 3 houses, Cranley Gardens, for Messrs. C. and F. Bryon, 307 Seven Sisters Road; 6 garages, Cholmeley Crescent, for Mr. Ernest Nathan Cansick, 15 Causton Road, Highgate; alterations, Perfect Picture House, Tottenham Lane, for Mr. Eustace George Hasting, 18 Priory Road; additions, Club House, Stornont Road, for Highgate Golf Club Committee; alterations and additions, 32 The Broadway, Crouch End, for Rego Clothiers, Ltd., High Street, Shoreditch; new road off Cranley Gardens, for Messrs. R. B. Grantham & Son, 5 Little College Street, Westminster; alterations and additions, 21 Topsfield Parade, for Messrs. Pollard & Co., Ltd., St. John's Square, Clerkenwell.

HULL.—At the Housing Committee the city architect submitted plans and estimates for 200 parlour type houses for erection on the East Hull site from Messrs. J. H. Fenwick & Son, Ltd., on the "Quick" system, and Messrs. Kettlewell, Son & Co., Ltd., on the "Wild" system. Messrs. Fenwick quoted £484 each in blocks of six or four, and £499 each in blocks of two, and the prices of Messrs. Kettlewell were £473 each in blocks of six, £480 each in blocks of four and £487 each in blocks of two. The Committee accepted the tender of Messrs. Kettlewell for "Wild" houses.—On behalf of the Minerva Land Syndicate Messrs. Gelder & Kitchen, 120 Alfred Gelder Street, have prepared plans for a new street leading out of Chanterlands Avenue.—It is proposed to establish a school for Roman Catholic children in Southcoates Lane.—Sketch plans are to be prepared for an elementary school on the Cottingham Road housing estate.—A loan of £40,000 has been sanctioned for asphalt paving schemes.—Plans passed: 25 houses, New Chanterlands Avenue, for Mr. T. R. Barnett, builder; 20 houses, North Road, for Mr. L. Caley, builder; 19 houses Westbourne Avenue, for Mr. H. Sanderson; four houses, Hedon Road, for Mr. R. Finch, builder; nine houses, Marfleet Lane, for Mr. H. Gray; 29 houses, Chanterlands Avenue, for Mr. W. H. Loveridge, builder; 10 houses, Ormonde Avenue, for Mr. E. Mowforth; nine houses, Southcoates Lane, for Mr. R. Ashton; 29 houses, New Street, Marne Street, for Mr. H. Spruit; 10 houses, Kelvin Street, for Mr. C. H. Smith; nine houses, North Road, for Mr. J. Emerson; vestry and store, St. Phillip's Church, George Street, for Trustees.

ILFORD.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a scheme for subsidising a further 400 houses.—The U.D.C. have arranged to invite tenders for the erection of the library building, including town hall basement under and extension of town hall offices over.—Plans passed: Baptist Church, Ilford Lane, for Messrs. Murrell & Pigott, architects, 44 Bedford Row, W.C.; oxygen compressing house, Uphall Works, Uphall Road, for Messrs. Howard & Sons, Ltd.; 6 shops, Balgrave Road, for Mr. R. C. Turner-Gordon; off licence, 66A Quebec Road, for Messrs. Courage & Co., Ltd.; 4 shops, Green Lane, for Messrs. Montague Holmes & Son; 12 houses, Kingston Road, for Mr. C. W. Vaughan; 4 houses, Gyllyndune Gardens; 88 houses, Brantwood

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The Truscon hollow floor gives long span slabs with flat ceilings—it is the lightest floor on the market, with the result that there is a considerable saving in the weight of the structural steel framework when this floor is used.



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Gardens and Grasmere Gardens, for Messrs. P. E. Brand, Ltd.; 7 houses, Wards Road East and 16 in Vicarage Lane, for Messrs. Haines & Warwick; 26 houses, Ambleside Road, for Messrs. P. E. Brand, Ltd.; houses and shops, in Beresford Gardens and Lonsdale Gardens, for Suburban Developments (London), Ltd.; rebuilding Red Cow Inn, Ley Street, for Mr. R. Banks Martin; 22 houses, Southdene Gardens, 26 houses, Danehurst Gardens, for Messrs. P. E. Brand, Ltd.; 18 houses, Southview Crescent, for Suburban Developments (London), Ltd.; 20 houses, Redbridge Lane, for Messrs. E. P. Brand, Ltd.; 159 houses, Cranley Drive, Easternville Gardens and Quebec Road, for Suburban Developments (London), Ltd.; 80 houses, Brook Road, Suffolk Road and Hertford Road, for Mr. F. G. Wilks.

ILFRACOMBE.—Devon C.C. are to raise a loan of £9,000 for the erection of a police station at Ilfracombe.

KNOWLE.—Hampshire Joint Hospital Committee have decided to install new machinery and re-arrange the laundry at the Knowle mental institution at a cost of £1,750.

LEICESTER.—The Corporation have decided to build a motor garage at the Friday Street depot.—St. Michael's Sunday School premises in Glen Street are to be rented and adapted by the Education Committee for elementary school purposes.—The Leicester Rubber Co., Ltd., are seeking land for the extension of their works.—Land in Sawday Street has been sold to Mr. Richard William Roberts for the erection of houses.—Land on the Park Estate, Aylestone, has been sold by the Corporation to the Leicester Co-operative Society for the erection of five shops.—A mortuary is to be erected at Welford Road, at a cost of about £3,000.—The Corporation have agreed to the following contracts for the erection of further houses at £465 per non-parlour house and £515 per parlour house: Messrs. Browning Bros, 36 parlour and 20 non-parlour houses; Messrs. E. Sherriff & Co., builders, 444 Gipsy Lane, Leicester, 8 parlour and 16 non-parlour houses; Mr. A. E. Mould, 2 parlour and 8 non-parlour houses; Messrs. F. Garner & Sons, builders, 181 Loughborough Road, Leicester, 10 parlour houses.

LIVERPOOL.—The foundation stone has just been laid for the new Church of St. Mark, Edge Lane.—The building is being erected from the designs of Mr. Frank Rimmington, L.R.I.B.A., chartered architect, 26 North John Street, Liverpool, and the contract is in the hands of Messrs. John Williams, Ltd., Collingwood Street.

LONDON.—The members of the Wesleyan Church are proposing to make extensions of the Church and School and renovations of the existing buildings. Plans by Mr. Fred Howorth, architect, Lune Street, Preston.

LUTON.—Plans passed: 7 houses, Richmond Hill, for Messrs. J. Tomkins & Sons, builders, Langley Road; 7 houses, Stratford Road, for Mr. N. Hill, builder, 57 Mansfield Road; 4 houses, Argyll Avenue, for Messrs. F. Chandler & Son, builders, 18 Waldeck Road; 6 houses, Kingsway, for Messrs. Wallace & Hayward, builders, 57 and 51 Stratford Road; 10 houses, Argyll Avenue, for Mr. A. Mardle, builder, 57 Castle Street; 12 houses, Durbar Road, for Mr. J. Frost, builder, 45 Dale Road; 8 houses, Argyll Avenue, for Mr. A. Catlin, builder, 52 Tavistock Street; 6 houses, Dunstable Road, for Mr. G. Bell.

MANCHESTER.—The Improvements Committee propose an expenditure of £150,000 for the purchase of land and properties in connection with the town hall extension.—An expenditure of £120,000 is recommended upon tramway works and equipment.—A relief sewer is to be constructed at Gorton at a cost of £41,000.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—Mr. F. Thackeray, the Borough Architect, reports that plans in connection with the unhealthy areas in Dowlais and Cyfartha have been submitted to the Ministry of Health, and provide for the erection of 231 houses. Plans are in course of preparation for 50 houses at Heolgerrig.—It is suggested that 60 houses should be erected at the Aberfan Fawr Farm.

MEXBOROUGH.—The Council are asking for sanction to build 615 houses and already have land for 115.

NORMANTON.—Progress is being made in the erection of the Castleford, Normanton and District Cottage Hospital at Hightown, Whitwood Mere. The architect is Mr. R. A. Easdale, 4 County Chambers, Castleford, and the contractor Mr. L. J. Gallagher, Smarthorpe Lane, Castleford.

NORTHAMPTON.—The Northampton Foundry Co., Ltd., are to construct two demonstration Atholl type steel houses at a cost of £450 each.—Plans passed: alterations, King William public-house, Kingswell Street, for Messrs. P. Phipps & Co., Ltd.; seven houses, The Vale, for Messrs. Lack, Revitt & Robinson, builders, 1A Ethel Street; four houses, Clarence Avenue, for Mr. H. Holloway; 14 garages and workshop, Court Road, for Mr. Wm. Coe; additional storey to warehouse, Wood Street, for Messrs. A. R. and W. Cleaver, Ltd.

OLDBURY.—The Urban District Council contemplate the erection of one hundred houses within the next twelve months. It is computed that the needs of the district require at least 500 houses.

OLDHAM.—The Ministry of Health has given formal sanction to the borrowing of £16,000 for the erection of dwellings on the Hollings Housing site.

OLDHAM.—The Education Committee have approved plans prepared by Messrs. Joseph Stott & Sons, architects, 34 Clegg Street, Oldham, for the extension of the technical school in Ashcroft Street.—The Borough Engineer has prepared plans for tennis courts and pavilion in Alexandra Park at a cost of £5,000.—The Borough Engineer is to prepare a scheme for the extension of the laundry accommodation at Westholme Hospital.—A further hundred houses are to be subsidised.—Plans passed: five house, Keble Avenue, for Mr. T. C. Lees; 25 garages, Manley Road, for Mr. H. Partington.

PETERBOROUGH.—Plans passed: additions to premises, Broadway, for Messrs. Guttridge & Sons, builders, 42 Park Road, and houses at Padholme Road, for Mr. S. Dodson, architect, 15 Queen Street, Mayor's Walk, for Mr. H. Hawdon; Fairfield Road, for Mr. C. Green; Park Road, for Peterborough Co-operative Society; Eastfield Road, for Mr. W. P. Hack, architect, Baick Chambers, Cathedral Gateway.

POPULAR.—The Ministry of Health have asked for details in connection with the proposal of the Borough Council to erect a maternity and child welfare centre at a cost of £15,000.—The L.C.C. give notice of intention to erect a school for about 300 children in Janet Street.—Plans passed: building on south of Ingleheim Place, for Messrs. Hooper, Cushen & Co.; additions, Dule of Suffolk, Suffolk Street, for Mr. S. A. Yeo, architect, 2, 4 and 6 St. John Street, E.C.1; additions, club premises, Carmen Street, for Messrs. Harris & Wardrop.

REIGATE.—Plans passed: additions, Fonthill Hotel, for Captain Mason; additions Kerri School, for the Misses Fowler & Roberts; steel building, Holmthorpe, for Dressler Tunnel Ovens, Ltd.; studio, St. John's Road, Redhill, for British Wax Refining Co., Ltd.—Revised estimates show that the cost of the proposed secondary school for girls will be £45,620.—Additional accommodation is to be provided at the Boys' Grammar School at a cost of £7,812.

ROCHDALE.—The Council have decided to make application to the Ministry of Health for permission to erect a further batch of 60 to 70 houses on a part of the Turf Hull estate which has not yet been utilised.—Plans have been approved for 190 of the 200 subsidy houses which have been sanctioned for Rochdale.

ROTHERHAM.—At a meeting of the Rotherham Education Committee it was decided to extend the Badsley Moor Lane Council School to provide 250 places with a further 250 places to complete later the original scheme.

ROYTON.—Plans were submitted and approved to the Education Committee for the proposed new school at Crompton House. A central school is now very much in evidence with the Committee and plans have been prepared by the county architect for a school with a total accommodation for 412 scholars.

SALE.—At a meeting of the Sale, Ashton-on-Mersey and Lymm Education Sub-committee it was proposed by the managers of Oughtlington School to erect a screen in the main room and to install central heating system throughout the school.

SALFORD.—The Corporation Improvements Committee propose to submit to the Ministry of Transport the scheme for widening Eccles Old Road, the estimated cost of which is £85,800.—Sanction is being sought for a loan of £69,000 for the erection of 126 houses on the Littleton Road estate.—The Education Committee recommend the tender of £8,040 of Mr. Arthur Fenton, of Manchester, for structural alterations and extensions at the Broughton High School for Girls.

SHIPLEY.—Plans passed: 24 houses, Kendall Avenue, for Messrs. A. Kendal & Sons; 23 houses, Norwood Avenue, for Mr. H. Chippindale; alterations to premises, Crag Road, for Windhill Co-operative Society; 6 garages, Saltaire Road, for Messrs. F. H. Holdsworth, Ltd.; alterations, Woodman Inn, Saltaire Road, for Smith's Tadcaster Brewery Co., Ltd.; 4 houses, Nab Wood Drive, for Messrs. William Pitts & Sons.

TWICKENHAM.—The alterations which are being carried out at the Pelabon Works, Cambridge Road, are being executed by Mr. W. Hammond, Contractor, Battersea, the architects are Messrs. George Baines & Son, F.R.I.B.A., Chartered Architects, of Westminster.

UXBRIDGE.—The Urban District Council propose to arrange with Messrs. Adams & Thompson, to prepare a town planning scheme for the district at a cost of about £700.—Public lavatories are to be constructed in the Square at George Street. Plans passed: ten bungalows, Walford Road, for Mr. L. H. Melhuish.

WATFORD.—The Metropolitan Asylums Board are to erect a nurses home at the Leavesden Asylum.

CONTENTS.

The Practical Man	PAGE 267	Central Research Laboratories of Radiation Limited	PAGE 278
Modern Architecture in Denmark	270	General News	279
The Tragic Side of Things—II	271	New Electricity Demonstration Halls and Offices, Hackney	280
The Symbolism of Death in England	272	Building Progress in and near London	284
St. Mary's Abbey, West Malling	274		



ST. HANS TVEJE CHURCH, NEAR ODENSE. P. V. JENSEN KLINT, Architect.

The Practical Man.

There are few adjectives which are so often misapplied as that of "practical." To many "practical" is believed to be the right term to apply to a man who is exact and precise, and without imagination or fancy, a machine deficient in both the milk of human kindness and reasonable belief in the honesty and uprightness of his fellow men. To others the practical man is one who can meticulously check and judge of the value of certain work of others, because he can do it himself. He is, in a word, more or less a species of policeman with a keen sense of the shortcomings of others. A better definition of the really practical man is one who has insight into character and who knows whom to trust and whom to avoid; one who is neither very cautious or very rash, but who chooses a happy medium. Above all, the really practical man recognises that no one of us has the knowledge to master every subject in his entirety, but possesses the ability and discrimination to know on whom he can safely rely. He is pre-eminently a man whose mental balance is sound and who recognises that the best results are only to be obtained by making full use of the agency of others. He must be one whose optimism is tempered with cautious reason, one who is neither over-swayed by success or over-depressed by temporary failures. He will recognise that in human affairs we seldom, if ever, meet with entire success, though we may get a good deal on account, and knowing that complete success is uncommon he will allow a reasonable margin for unexpected events which will militate against complete achievement.

In our own profession it is not sufficient to have an unusually good knowledge of the character and

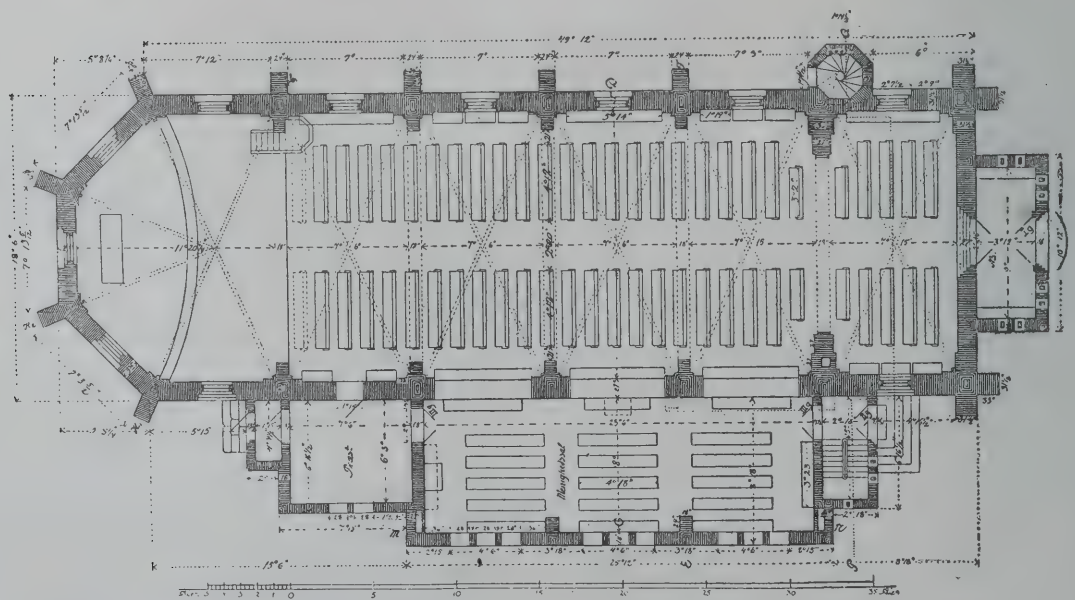
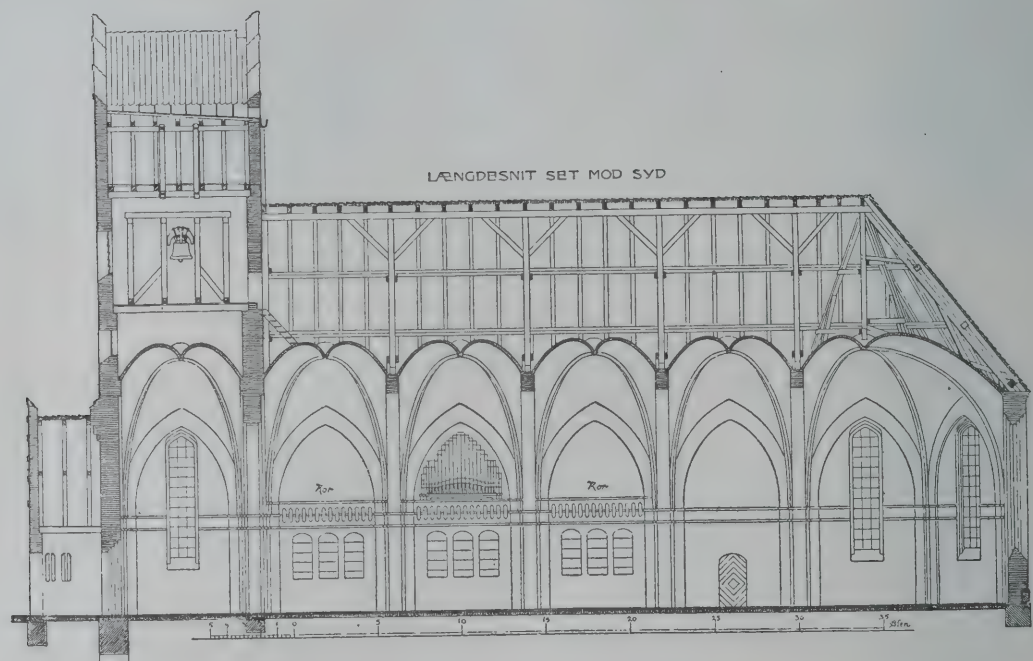
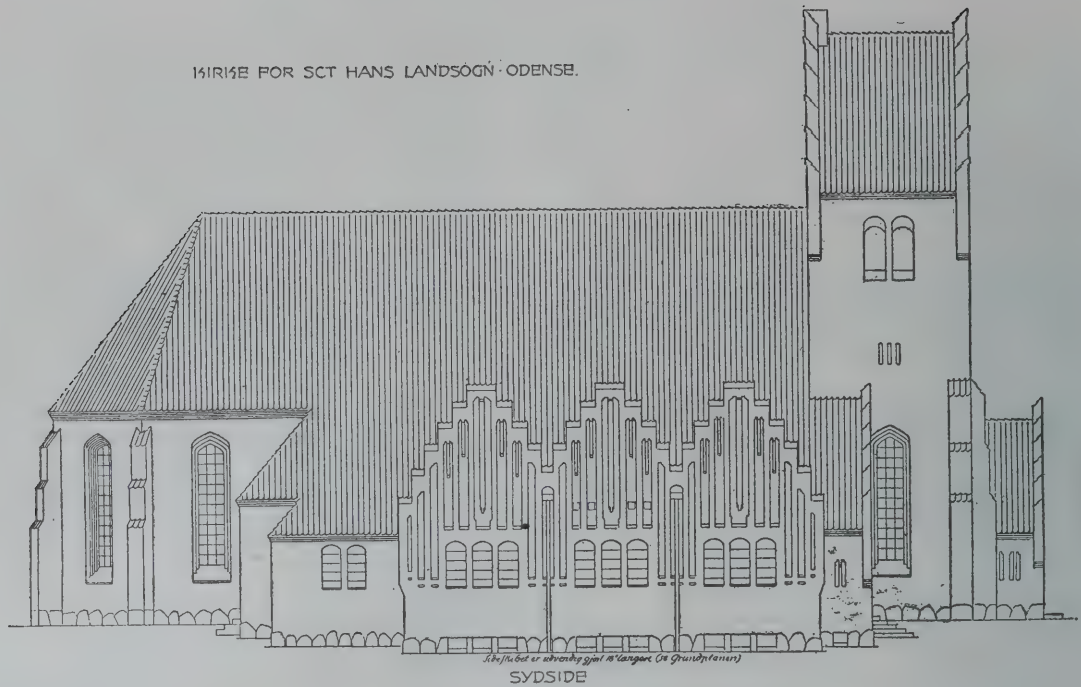
processes of building if we have not sufficient skill in planning and design. We have known architects who could have earned their living as joiners, architects, who could carry out masonry, brickwork or plastering, yet these men would often be wrongly described as being practical architects. It is true that the men whom we have alluded to could safely direct a gang of workmen without the aid of a builder's foreman, but the value of their knowledge to the client is almost nil unless, in addition, they are skilful planners and designers. As foremen or directors of work they would, in spite of their proficiency in most cases, be of less use than a good builder's foreman who has devoted his energies to acquiring knowledge of the processes of building and nothing else. Alternatively, the foreman or builder who has attempted to study design would not be a better man to employ than one who had not, while, because he had devoted time and energy to what is in his case an outside interest, he would probably be less of a master of his specific occupation.

It follows that what is practical knowledge for one man is a side issue or even recreational pursuit for another.

And though none of us can know too much, our knowledge may be built up of the wrong ingredients for the purpose we have in hand, and the really practical man will carefully determine what is most essential to his purpose and will not attempt to burden himself by carrying a weight of information which is not material to his calling.

Good draughtsmanship is most valuable, but it is not necessary that every practising architect should be able to finish a set of drawings which would attract

KIRKE FOR SGT HANS LANDSØGN, ODENSE.



ST. HANS TVEJE CHURCH. P. V. JENSEN KLINT, Architect.

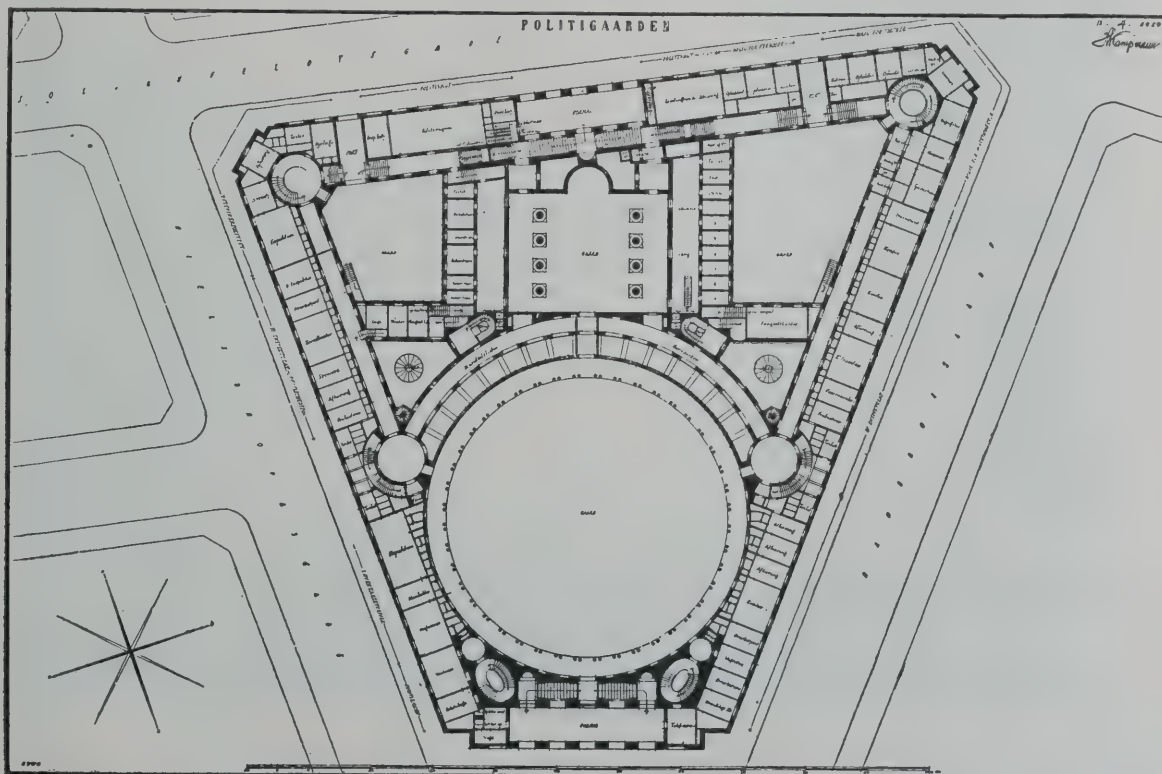


POLICE HEADQUARTERS, COPENHAGEN. PROFESSOR HAAK KAMPMANN, Architect.

admiring attention in a competition for the Prix de Rome. It is more important to him that he should have knowledge, facility and skill in designing, for if he possesses these in a high degree he can obtain assistance whenever he has to make an exceptionally fine set of drawings.

Many men are unpractical in the sense that they prefer to do what is sometimes somewhat rudely described as "donkey work," instead of thinking out problems and letting others do the "donkey work" for them. Many men are so keenly interested in what is at the best a high class of mechanical work that they overlook the fact that an architect's drawings are not like a painter's picture, an end in themselves, but only a means to an end.

In some cases this is the outcome of a type of mental laziness, for it is pleasant to be occupied with something which is largely mechanical, and far more difficult to exercise the thought which is essential, if problems are to be solved. Many architects are unpractical in that they prefer communing with their own thoughts to mixing among their fellows, who may be potential or actual clients. Architects in a word may be unpractical because they do themselves what it were better to leave to others, because they are misled by a special facility in what is but one and a small side of their calling, and above all, because they shirk the labours of keen mental effort. They are unpractical if they do not study and attempt to "size up" their fellow men if they have no clear idea what the average



PLAN OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

client's real standpoint about building is, and are not sufficiently quick to adjust themselves to the ideas of others. Every commission obtained involves an adjustment between two different standpoints—that of the architect and his client; and satisfaction is only possible in those cases when both come to grips. The onus of doing so in most cases rests with the architect, as he is on his own ground with which his client in most cases is unfamiliar. It rests with the architect to make his views and intentions clear, otherwise the result is in many cases a building which the client would never have sanctioned had he understood what was to be built at the outset.

The practical architect therefore need not be an unusually fine draughtsman, need not possess the knowledge and facility of a highly-trained artisan, need not be able to design highly-intricate constructional

steel work, but he must know whom to employ when he wants these things done. He must, on the other hand, be a good planner and designer and must have studied men sufficiently to understand their real wants and objects. He must also remember that, though to him a good building is the ultimate end he wishes to attain the client's end is a satisfactory building for a certain purpose, which he will consider represents a reasonable return for the money it has cost. A recognition of the difference between the two points of view will save many architects from the possibility of making dangerous mistakes, for the architect who makes a client feel he would not employ him a second time has failed, whatever the merits of his work may be, and has not earned the distinction of being regarded as a truly practical man.

Our Illustrations.

COTTAGE AT HORNCURCH. A. EDGAR BERESFORD, of BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

HOUSE IN LONGDOWN ROAD, EPSOM. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

HOUSE IN WARHAM ROAD, CROYDON. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

House in Longdown Road, Epsom.

This house was designed for a client recently returned from living abroad. The drawingroom is planned so that the sun's rays may enter at all times of the day. The bathroom and the first floor W.C. are so arranged that they may be used separately or thrown "en suite" with the principal bedroom.

House in Warham Road, Croydon.

This house was erected in 1923 on a site overlooking the Croydon Bowling Club grounds. Facing bricks are Dorking multi-coloured stocks. The staircase is in Austrian oak and oak parquet floors are laid to hall and reception rooms. A boxroom was arranged in roof of garage with access from landing. The general contractors were Messrs. George E.

Everitt, Ltd. Casements, glazing, plumbing, central heating and electric light installation were carried out by Messrs. Wenham & Fowler.

Cottage at Hornchurch.

This house was designed for a site at Hornchurch of no special characteristics but backed by a fine row of elms: the approach being from the north. As the area required on the first floor for bedrooms was greater than that desired for sitting rooms the old expedient of overrailing the upper storey was adopted, the overhanging walls being constructed partly in oak half timber and partly in tile-hung framing. The plan illustrated shows the arrangement of the ground floor: above it are four bedrooms, bathroom, etc., on the first floor and a large attic in the roof.



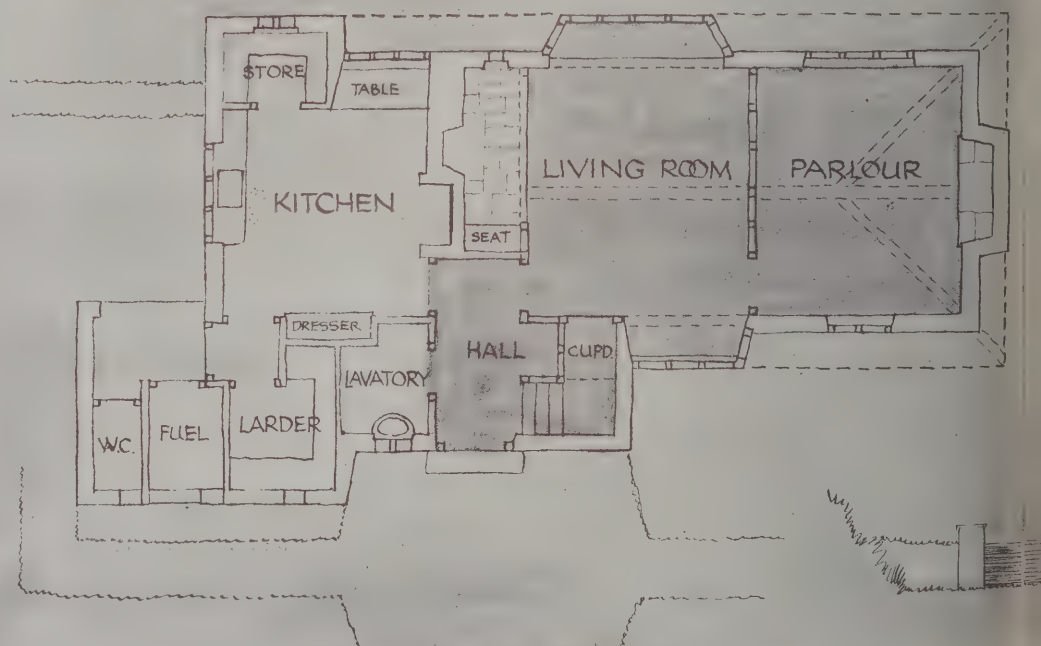
HOUSE AT CHARLOTTENLUND. TH. HJEJLE & NIELS ROSENKJÆR, Architects.

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A COTTAGE at HORNCHUR



The NORTH ELEVATION to ROAD



The GROUND FLOOR PLAN

OBER 16th, 1925.

H in Essex

A. EDGAR BERESFORD
• ARCHITECT •



The WEST ELEVATION



The SOUTH ELEVATION to GARDEN

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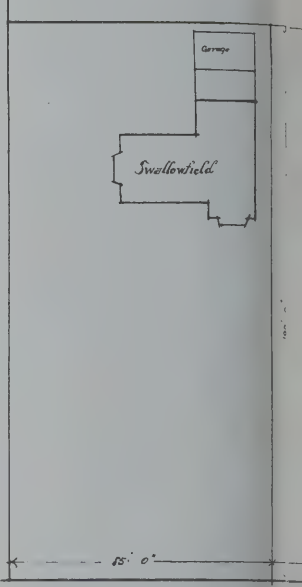
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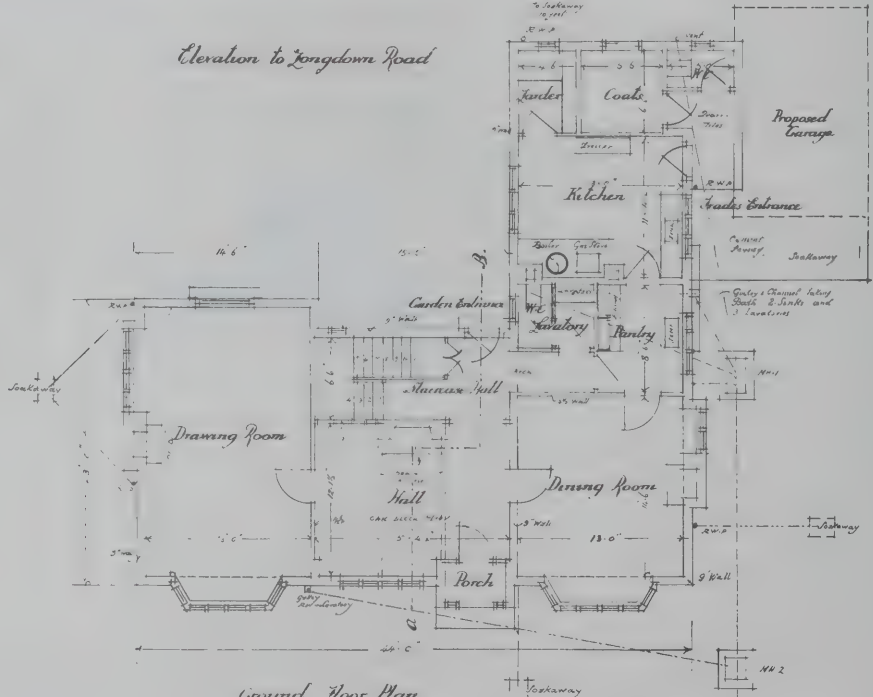
HOUSE LONGDOWN ROAD

EPSOM SURREY

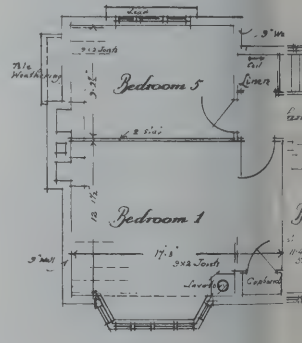
For Mr Knight



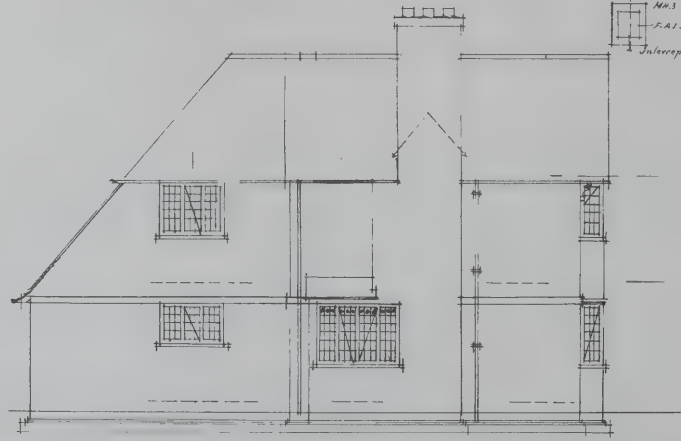
Elevation to Longdown Road



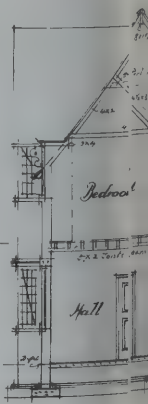
Block Plan of Site



First Floor Plan



South West Elevation

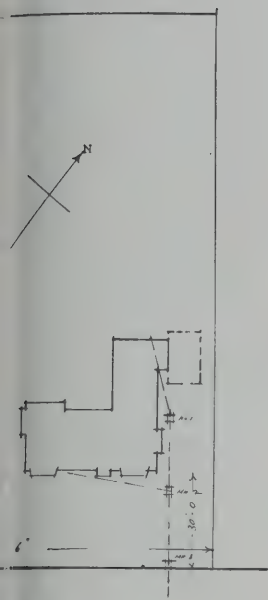


Cross Section

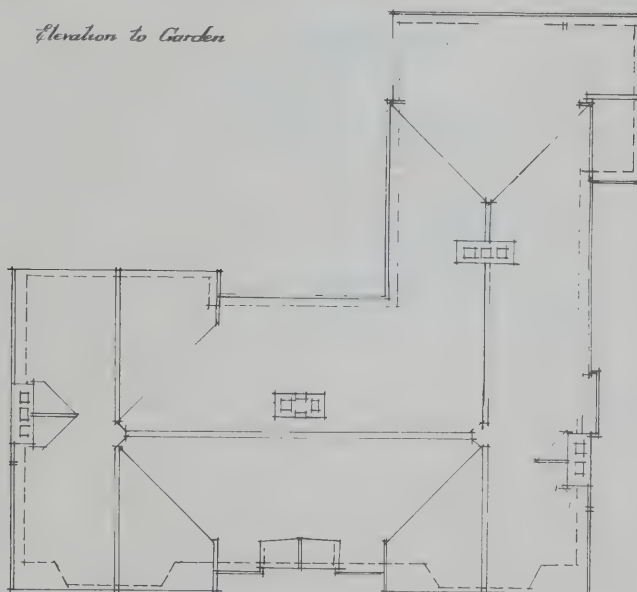
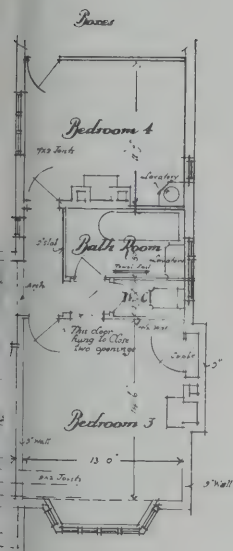
OBER 16th, 1925.

Cubic Contents 29935 feet.

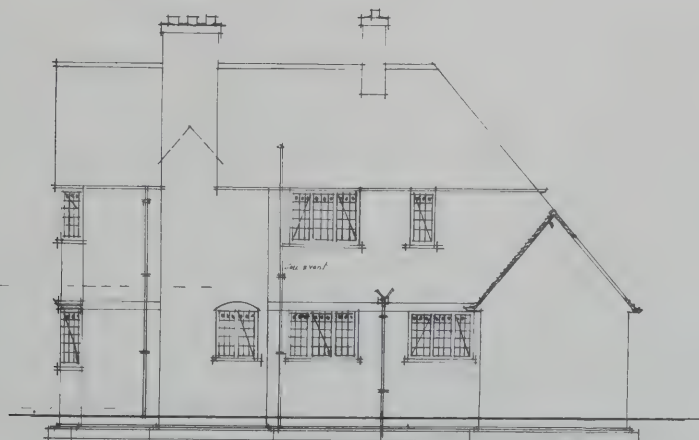
Drawing N°1



Elevation to Garden



Roof Plan



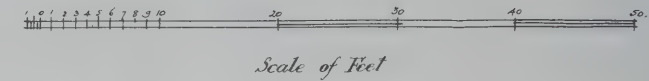
North East Elevation

Vicholls Hughes
Architects
& Raymond Burdett
Engineers, 100, Fenchurch Lane

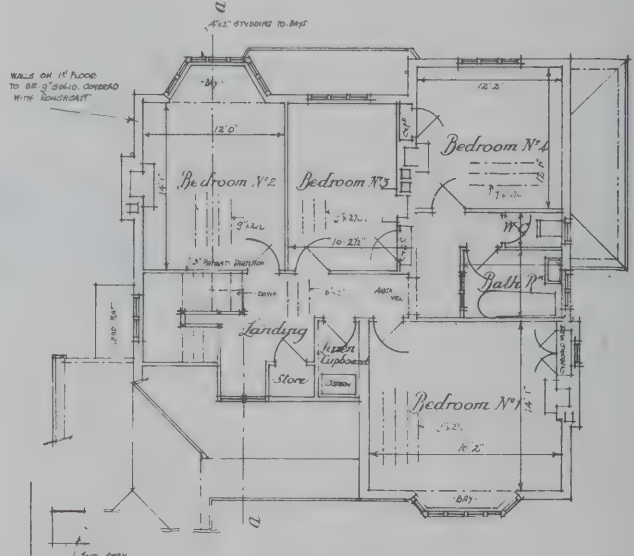
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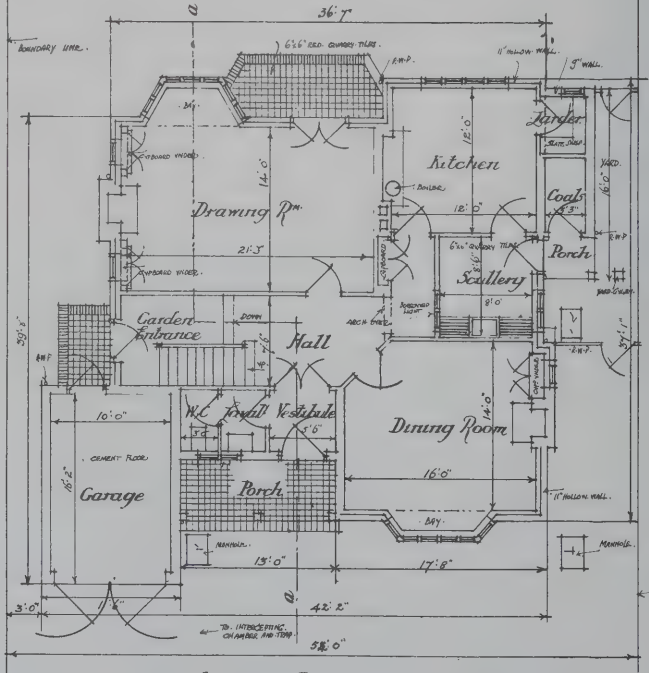
* NEW
* WARM
* CRY



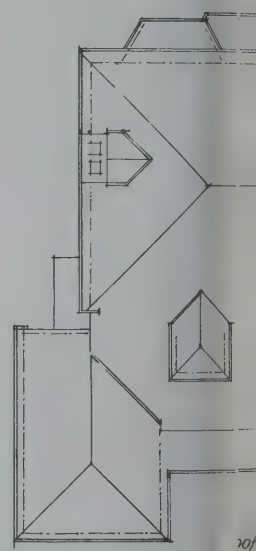
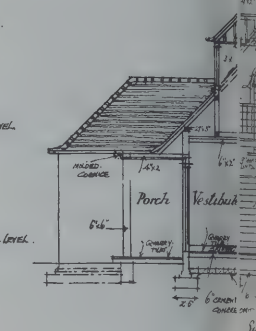
Elevation to Warham Road



First Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan



Side Elevation (West)

OBER 16th, 1925.

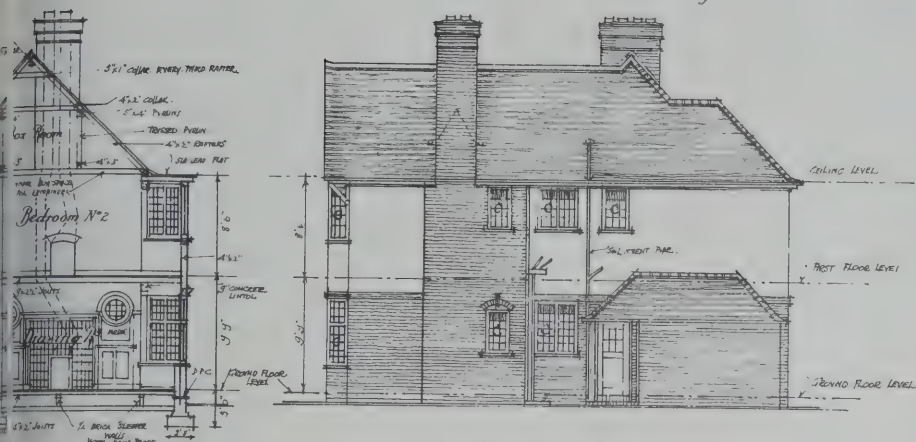
Drawing N° 1

This is the drawing marked
N°1 referred in the contract.

For J Grew Esq^r.

Signed by the said

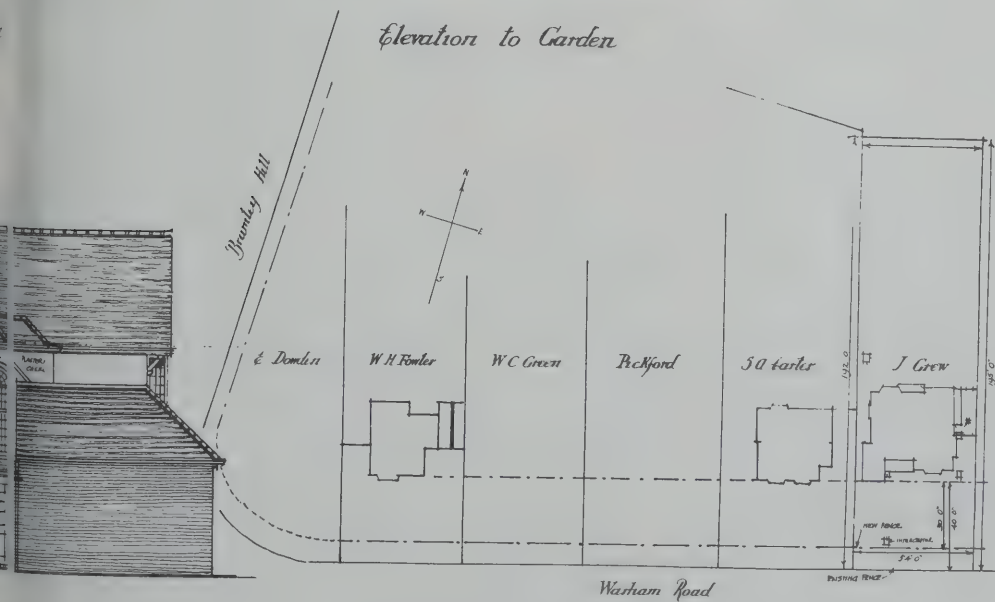
Signed by the said



Side Elevation (East)



Elevation to Garden



Block Plan of Site

Nicholls-Hughes
Architects
4, Raymond's Buildings
Grays Inn, London.

"PHOTO-LITHO" BY BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON. E.C.3

ROAD, CROYDON.

ARCHITECTS.

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Modern Architecture in Denmark.

Much attention has recently been directed towards modern architectural developments in Sweden and in Holland, but we are inclined to think from what we have seen that contemporary Danish work is better thought out and on sounder lines than that of her Scandinavian neighbours. We therefore welcome the publication entitled "Modern Architecture in Denmark," which has been issued by the Society of Academical Architects in Denmark, and from which we give several illustrations. All the buildings shown are, with the exception of the works of Professor Hack Kampmann and Professor Carl Petersen, the work of living architects.

Our first illustrations are those of St. Hans Tveje Church, from the design of P. V. Jensen Klint, a well designed and very picturesque brick composition.

The Police Courts at Copenhagen, by Professor H. J. Kampmann, possess an admirably designed plan, of which the very fine central circular court is the most notable feature. The other interior views given show its design to be on lines of great simplicity, without any note of bizarre design, unless we may mention the first floor doorway with its exaggerated shell decoration over the doorhead.

In the house at Charlottenlund an earlier phase of design is followed with simply designed curved gable ends, but in most of the domestic designs illustrated a more severe note is struck. But in all the architects seem to have felt and expressed themselves both with great reticence and unusual appreciation of the elements of mass and proportion. It could be said without exaggeration that in no single case in any work illustrated is there a note of vulgarity, and the phantasies of the new art movement which are apparent elsewhere seem to be unreflected in the Danish mind.

It is delightful to see work which is simple without being consciously and affected simple, refined without being bare and crude, in accordance with the best architectural tradition without being mannered or self-conscious. We believe that our *confrères* in Denmark, if the works illustrated are fair samples of their achievements, are building up architecture which is in every way a worthy outcome of great past traditions and one in which the formal and the picturesque are very pleasantly blended. Doubtless the fact that Denmark possesses a public which is unusually highly educated and well-trained has its effect on architectural development which is of a most unusual order of merit and of charm.

The Tragic Side of Things—No. 2.

The Limited Competition.

By Cetera Desunt.

Mr. A. was an architect. He had travelled to and fro in the earth for many years, making measured drawings and sketches of countless cathedrals, churches, abbeys and ecclesiastical edifices. He served as a soldier during the war.

On his return he was commissioned to design a War Memorial for a Wesleyan Methodist Church. This he carried out to the entire satisfaction of the minister and the committee.

So pleased was the minister that he assured Mr. A. that the memorial had introduced a spiritual atmosphere into the church which was a great source of inspiration to him every time he entered the church to preach.

The church was an appalling example of mid-Victorian debased Gothic. It had been designed and erected by a builder, and was so badly constructed that it had become dangerous.

Mr. A. was approached secretly by the minister and the chairman of the building committee (an eminent bookseller) to design a new church, for which the sum of £12,000 had already been collected. Mr. A. was assured that if he solved the problem for the sum named he would receive the commission to carry out the work.

Nothing was put in writing.

Mr. A. solved the problem for the sum named, and the minister and the bookseller expressed the greatest satisfaction with the design. At £12,000 it could not claim to be a thing of beauty or a masterpiece. The design went before the committee, which included a Labour M.P. and a retired banker, a builder, a photographer and two ladies.

After much wrangling and discussion it was condemned by a slight majority. The committee decided to hold a limited competition, and invited four architects to send in designs. Mr. A. agreed to compete on condition that a professional assessor was appointed. The committee refused. Had they not a surveyor, a member of the church, who would act as assessor without a fee?

The minister and the bookseller finally persuaded Mr. A. to compete.

Mr. B., the second architect, was a member of the church.

Mr. C., the third architect, was a great golfing friend of the assessor.

Mr. D. had an office next door to the secretary of the committee.

Mr. A. was unknown to the assessor.

Mr. A. put his extensive knowledge into his second design, and produced a scholarly and simple design which could have been carried out at the new figure named, viz., £18,000.

Before the designs were sent in all Mr. A.'s supporters resigned from the committee. This relieved the minister and the first chairman, the bookseller, of their original agreement with Mr. A.

Mr. A. frequently met the minister and the bookseller, who repeatedly stated that they hoped he would win the competition. Small premiums were to be awarded to the three placed first, second and third. The architect placed first was to carry out the work.

The sending in day arrived, and Mr. A., Mr. B. and Mr. D.'s drawings were delivered up to time. Mr. C.'s drawings were late.

Mr. C. was the friend of the assessor.

Mr. A.'s design was a church. Mr. B.'s might have been a picture house. Mr. D.'s might have been a school or a town hall. Mr. C.'s was a scholarly design but had no ecclesiastical feeling.

The committee wrangled over the award for some time. The minister went his holidays and wrote the assessor that he wished Mr. C. to get the work.

Mr. C. was placed first, Mr. B. second, Mr. D. third, and Mr. A. fourth and last.

On the recommendation of the bookseller, who was really an upright and honourable fellow, Mr. A. was awarded a special prize of £10.

For his two designs, consisting of plans, elevations, sections and several perspectives Mr. A. was thus handsomely rewarded by a generous and liberal committee of men and women who probably had never done a day's work without payment.

Ultimately it was discovered that Mr. C.'s design far exceeded the stipulated sum, and the church still remains unbuild.

The minister accepted a call to a "wider sphere of labour."

The writer met Mr. A. soon after the award was made public, and the only comment Mr. A. had to make was: "Another dispensation of Providence."

The Symbolism of Death in England—1440-1780.

By Mrs. Arundell Esdaile.

Adequately to treat of this enormous subject would require a volume, but a brief sketch of its course may not be unwelcome, the rather that it has not been too widely studied by archæologists.

The mediæval symbolism of death is almost confined to the cadaver, or rotting body of the dead; its object is warning, and it is surely significant that it appears to be confined to important ecclesiastics. It is a *memento mori* of the most poignant order, and when (as occasionally happens) it is contrasted with the figure of the dead man in his robes, as in the case of Chichele at Canterbury, the grimness is only enhanced. With the sixteenth century the cadaver becomes rare, and the skull takes its place as a common symbol, side by side with the new invention of the cherub. Not that the cadaver disappears altogether: its successor is the skeleton, which appears on painted slabs at St. Albans and elsewhere and incised on sepulchral brasses. Rarely—very rarely—the chancel house monument may be discovered, there is a conspicuous example in



FIGURE ILLUSTRATING INDUSTRY, VIGO HOUSE, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W. SIR JOHN J. BURNET, R.A., & PARTNERS, Architects; REID DICK, A.R.A., Sculptor.

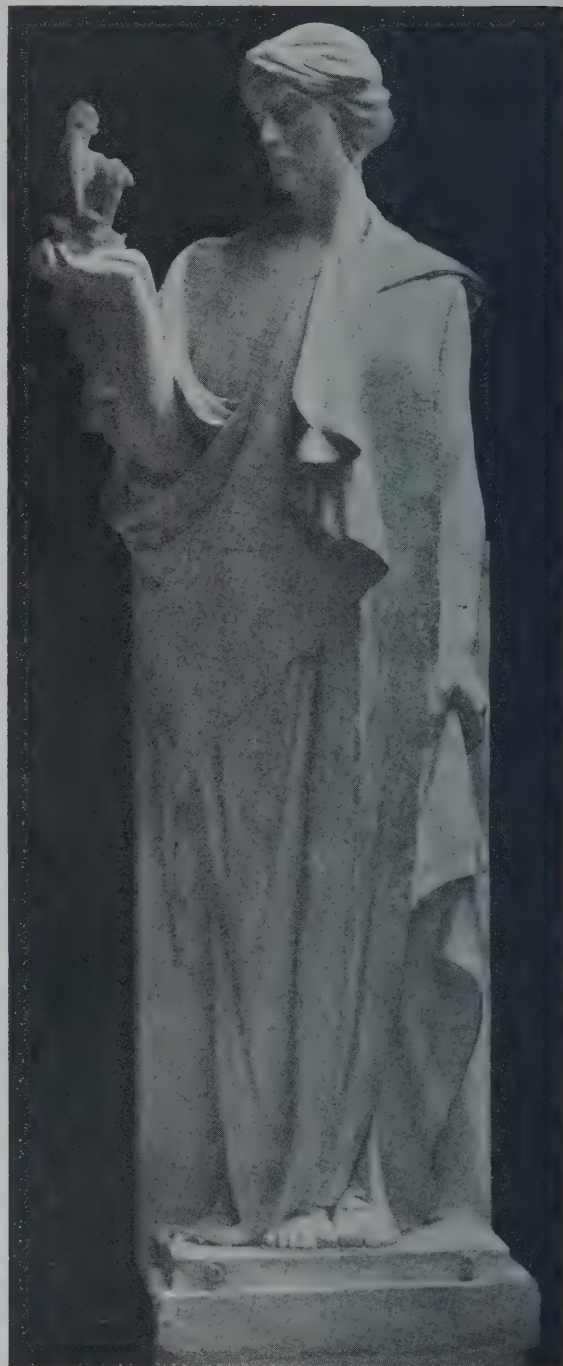


FIGURE ILLUSTRATING INDUSTRY, VIGO HOUSE, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W. SIR JOHN J. BURNET, R.A., & PARTNERS, Architects; REID DICK, A.R.A., Sculptor.

Canterbury Cathedral, and a very remarkable one at Brimpton, Dorset, where the subject lies under a canopy upon a table tomb resting upon those low arches under which, as in the grave, lies a mass of skulls and bones. Both these examples are Jacobean, and they are both of exceptional merit as regards the execution of their gruesome designs.

The skelton occurs now and again as a finial to a monument without other visible symbols of death save the cherub heads which are *de règle* throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries upon mural tablets of the less ambitious order. There is a singular example at Hengrave, Suffolk, which, as it leads up to the next class of the gloomy symbolism of the period, is well worth quoting. The monument to Thomas Darcy (undated c. 1620) represents a kneeling figure in full dress, wearing a sword and carrying a shield with his armorial bearings; below the tablet is a tiny figure of a skeleton in grave clothes, raising his arms as at the summons of the Last Trumpet and so exposing his whole anatomy framed by the drapery of the shroud.

It is very small—eight inches high perhaps—but of most exquisite workmanship, and the absence of the painting which covers the rest allows the quality of the carving to be fully seen. The figure in the shroud appears indeed to be a development of the cadaver softened to suit the increasing humanity of the seventeenth century. The most famous example is, of course, the effigy of Dr. Donne, but there are others, either representing the subjects at rest or as about to rise at the Last Day. A good instance of the latter is at Old Chelsea Parish Church.

Closely allied to these are the rare but usually finely carved examples of husband and wife side by side in the tomb, with the gates of death open to reveal their figures, as at Chipping Campden, Maidstone and Amersham, the latter on a much smaller scale than the former.

The skull, too, is now sometimes combined with the crossbones, and by the end of the seventeenth century a new and singular hybrid was invented. We have seen that cherubs and skulls recur on the same monument, the skull sometimes being treated as an architectural ornament in apposition to a cherub head or heads, sometimes placed in the hand of a full-length cherub, sometimes used as a drop pendant beneath a tablet devoid of other gloom, and sometimes placed beside the figure of the person commemorated or in his hand. Now comes in what the writer has elsewhere described as the death's head cherub—the skull with a pair of bat's wings. Once the convention is accepted the consequence is often extremely fine, and the death's head cherub, either pendant with outspread wings below a tablet or used in the corners below a tablet, where the wings are usually folded, is actually at times quite beautiful.

Once, and once only, does the skeleton itself appear as a mortuary emblem in the sculpture proper of the eighteenth century. (The village tombstone with the personification of death is in another category and will be dealt with later). This is on a remarkable tomb at Quanton, Bucks, where a knight and lady appear as recumbent effigies in the full Court costume of Queen Anne's day, while the side of their table tomb is sculptured with two skeletons in the same position. The hour-glass emblem, found occasionally on seventeenth century monuments of artistic pretension, also disappears, and the death's head cherub is dead by the reign of George III, Roubiliac being the last sculptor of importance to make use of it. Figures of Death himself occur, however; there is an instance at Bath, though the Palmay example if, of course, the Nightingale monument in Westminster Abbey. But personification is not symbolism, and these cases do not come into the present article any more than the allegorical figures representing the virtues of the dead.

In the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries we find the earliest cases of the lighted lamp as symbol of immortality, the urn as symbol of mortality. Both formed convenient adjuncts to the heraldic coat-of-arms which so often crowns a mural monument and both are classical in origin. The lighted lamp remains throughout the eighteenth century and on into the nineteenth, but is never more than decoration; the urn, while still used as decoration, may descend from cornice or pediment and become the central feature of a great design. Examples might be multiplied to weariness; we will confine ourselves to cases where it actually becomes all that is left of the subject of the monument. Now it is wreathed with flowers by angel hands, as on one of the Roubiliac models discovered by the writer in Westminster Abbey; now widows and the aged weep before it; now a mourning figure bends over it. The sarcophagus, another important feature of English monuments on a large scale from 1660 to 1800, is equally classical in origin and inspiration.

Such was the symbolism of our sepulchral sculpture from 1400 to 1780; but about that date Christian symbolism, in the shape of figures of Religion, Faith, Hope and Charity, makes its appearance, too often sentimentally. The dire results have lasted till to-day, and the singular lack of artistic quality which besets these attempts is a curious commentary on the often devout and even affecting inscriptions. The words are real, the figures most unreal. The earlier sculptor at least seemed to believe in his grim

symbolism; once that symbolism is softened his interest seems to depart, the subject to lose all touch with feeling and reality.

The symbolism thus briefly outlined is that of our greater monuments, our more decorative and ambitious mural tablets. We have now to see the effect of these models on the village mason. Unfortunately, his earlier efforts are now quite undecipherable both as to design and lettering, but before the end of the seventeenth century they become available, if the material used is one of lasting quality, and from that time onwards these headstones can be amply studied. The cherub, the death's head cherub, the skull and crossbones, the hour-glass, the scythe, the pick, the mattock, are frequent, and frequently rather comic; but they need not be so any more than the carvings of Time, with his scythe which, personification rather than symbol, is more ambitious sculpture, are only part of the village mason's stock-in-trade. When the urn has been in use a sufficient time on larger works it appears on humbler tombs, often with a mourning figure to help it out, or with a cherub bending over it. But alas for the village mason's understanding! It did not matter that the urn was intended for ashes on the tombstone of Mrs. Margaret Hunt (*ob.* 1784) at St. Ives as elsewhere; that subtlety, in fact, was beyond the mason altogether. His cherub, a cheerful winged figure, takes off the lid of the urn to disclose a heap of bones and skulls with the air of a chef on a poster displaying some really satisfactory substitute for soup. The only other thing of equal grotesqueness which can be named beside it is the incredible absurdity of a bearded cherub on the mural slab to a late seventeenth century citizen at South Mimms. Whether this was an effort of filial piety or a pretty fancy of the stonemason's, the result is ludicrous beyond belief, and as in this case the monument is of a more ambitious order—a mural tablet, not a mere headstone—one feels that the rector's veto might have been properly exercised upon the innovation, which is probably unique.

But, generally speaking, there is considerable decorative sense, and often skill and even delicacy of handling, in these village tombstones; and there is one symbol of the Resurrection, both pretty and appropriate, which appears not to be found on more ambitious works. This is the basket of flowers or leaves (precursor perhaps of the comparatively recent and now habitual use of actual flowers upon a grave), which is often used to good purpose in the country churchyard, and is infinitely preferable to the china wreaths under glass shades which are now banned in the well-regulated cemetery.

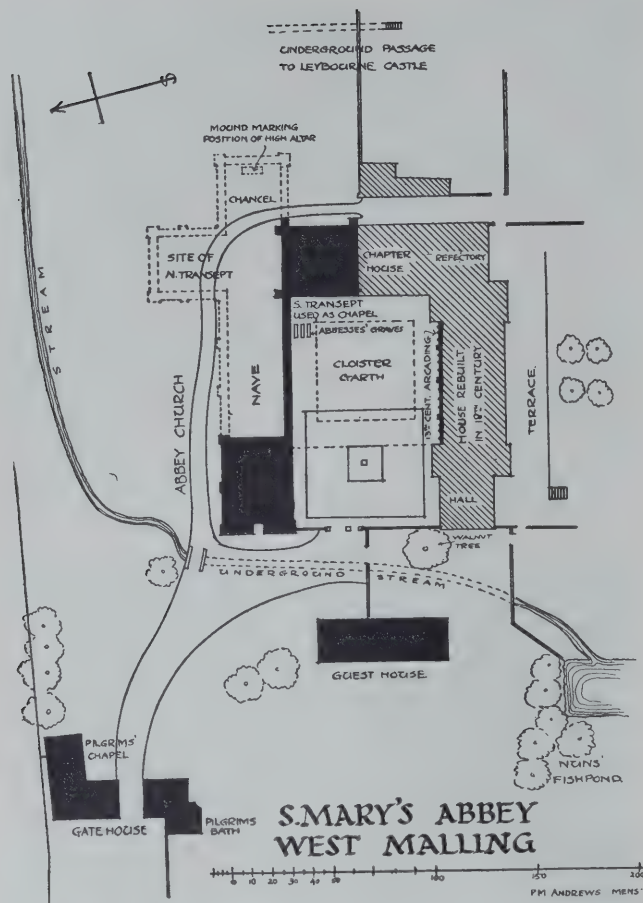
But let us not congratulate ourselves too soon. The religious symbolism of the twentieth century, as expressed in the less permanent and expensive form of flowers, is truly dreadful to contemplate. It has recently been expounded to the writer by an expert on the subject. On a new-made grave in a certain Hertfordshire churchyard was a wreath, and to that wreath was attached a series of gilt twigs arranged in a pattern new to the writer. "That," said the expert, "is the Open Door." And behold the pattern resolved itself into what is known in the trade as a Rustic Gate on a small scale, with gilt instead of brown sticky varnish by way of finish. Then the expert held forth. "Some people prefer an Empty Chair; others a lyre with a broken string—the largest for the father, the next largest for the mother, and the smaller ones for the children. Others, again, will ask for a Cushion, because the departed longed for rest."

This is the mortuary symbolism of to-day; is it better than the skulls and cherubs of our ancestors?

TYNEMOUTH.—Amended plans have been prepared for the extension of the Moor Park infectious diseases hospital.—The Fish Market is to be repaved at a cost of £2,565.—Messrs. Arrol are to be asked to submit revised prices with a view to completing the westward extension of the Union Quay. The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £40,568 for the quay reconstruction scheme.—Plans passed: workshop extension, Albion Road, for Mr. B. Matthew; 5 houses, Blanchard Terrace, for Messrs. F. R. N. Haswell & Son; workshops and garages off Waterville Road, for Messrs. Hays & Gray.

St. Mary's Abbey, West Malling.

By P. M. Andrews, A.R.I.B.A.



Those who have read Mr. Belloc's delightful book, "The Old Road," may have noticed that in it there is no mention of Malling. Anyone who has walked along the Way he describes so well will have been surprised at this omission. It is true that his purpose is principally to describe and delineate a prehistoric trackway which would have left Malling out of account, but, as he himself says, the spirit of the Pilgrimage and Canterbury so influences the later stages of the journey that other considerations are crowded out.

Now it is quite certain that Malling was not on the course of the ancient road, but it is equally certain that it formed an important halting-place on the later Pilgrims' Way. The old road passes well to the north, keeping to the lower slopes of the chalk downs, and gradually veers northward as the valley of the Medway is reached. Where that river was originally crossed is debatable. It may, and very likely was, crossed, as Mr. Belloc maintains, at Snodland. But there is also no doubt that one of the principal crossings even from very remote times was at Aylesford. This area is famous for the recovery of prehistoric objects, including Neolithic flints, Bronze Age pottery and later gold ornaments, and its importance, situated as it was, could not have had such prominence had there been no river crossing.

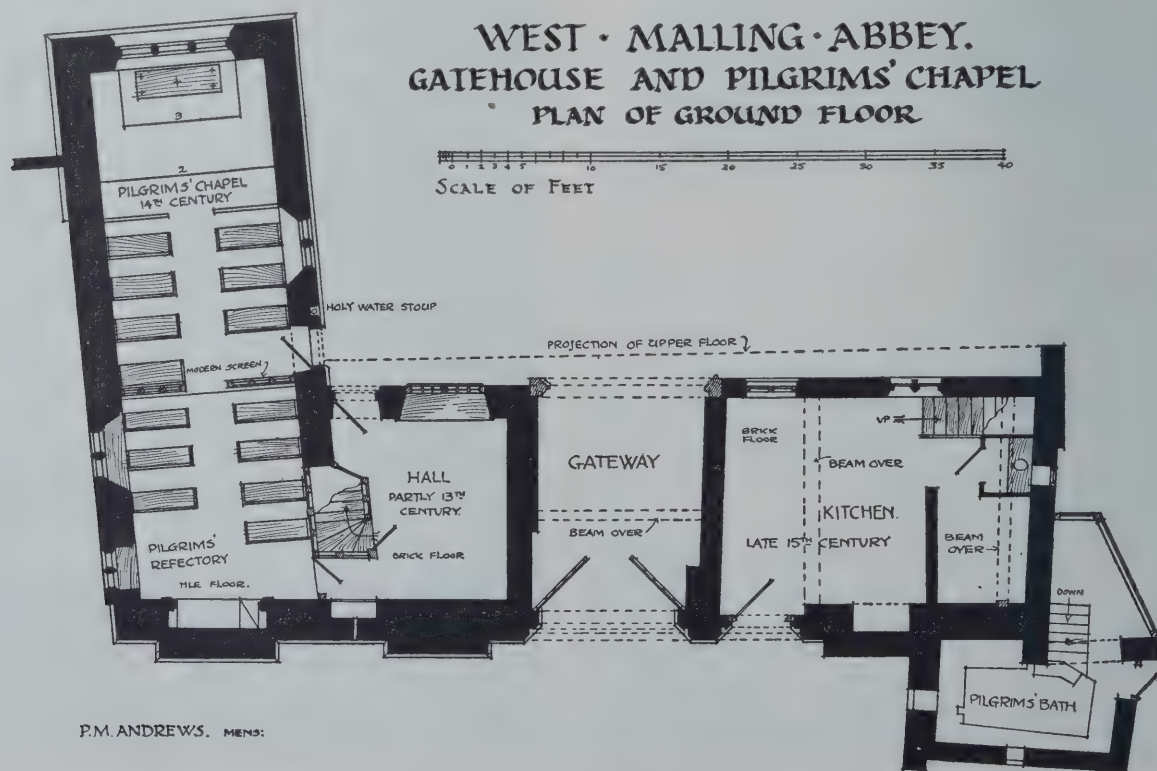
The mediæval pilgrims undoubtedly used the bridge in preference to the ford or ferry further down stream at Snodland. A bridge inevitably attracts travellers. Its importance in mediæval times is shown by the way the Church took over its maintenance, and the presence, in so many cases, of chapels upon it, testifies to its semi-sacred character.

To reach Aylesford then, the pilgrims would have left the primitive track soon after Wrotham; they would have passed through Trotterscliffe and Addington and so come to Malling, where they would have put up for the night, and on the morrow crossed the Medway by Aylesford bridge. Then, after climbing the hill by Kit's Coty House they would have rejoined the Old Road, which is here clearly defined, and continued on their way to Boxley, where the celebrated Rood of Grace would have stimulated their devotions and lightened their purses.

Whatever be the truth, Malling is strongly associated with the Pilgrimage, and though the legend that the knights, after the murder of the Archbishop, rode hither and demanded food, which was snatched from them by invisible hands, rests on a misconception, the fact that there is such a legend only strengthens the connection.

This story is most beautifully told in R. H. Benson's "The Light Invisible," and although history denies credence to the tale yet it detracts nothing from the beauty of the story. The whole book is a most charming allegory of the Abbey and was written within its precincts.

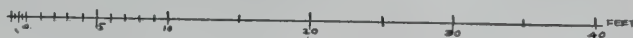
The Manor of Malling, or "Mallengetis," as it is called in Domesday, was the property of the Bishops of Rochester





PILGRIMS' BATH

.EXTERIOR ELEVATION OF GATEHOUSE.

P.M. ANDREWS.
MENS ET DEL.

before the Conquest, but was wrested from them in the time of the Danish wars. William handed it over to his militant half-brother, the Bishop of Bayeux, who, however, was unable to hold it. A great council of the realm was held on Pennenden Heath, near Maidstone, and Lanfranc restored the manor to the See of Rochester, whose property it remained until the Reformation.

Gundulph, at that time Bishop of Rochester, being a man of saintly parts and brought up in the same Norman monastery as Lanfranc and Anselm, founded an Abbey here in 1090 for Benedictine nuns. The Manor and Church of Malling, together with other property, were given to them for endowment, but, unlike so many of the greater abbeys, they were compelled to acknowledge the suzerainty of the mother See.

Gundulph was a man of parts. He was one of those highly gifted and many-sided men that the Dark Ages at times were wont to produce, and his light shines all the more brightly in contrast with the ignorance and savagery that surrounded him. A saintly monk, an able bishop, a wise administrator with a mind for detail, and a masterly and practical architect, such a combination could only be the result of a period that was struggling from the darkness of the greatest cataclysm that the world has ever known into the dawn of a civilisation that was yet to take some eight or nine centuries to mature. What makes Gundulph such an interesting figure is his architectural abilities. What special training he received we do not know, but that he was concerned with actual construction and not only with administration is clearly proved, and his work was not merely confined to ecclesiastical activities. He was the great castle builder of the time. He designed the original Keep at Rochester Castle, which has since been replaced by the present structure. He built St. Leonard's Tower at Malling, a great square Norman keep with shallow buttresses, which still stands, and the putlog holes which were used to support the overhanging Bretasche are still visible. But his chief secular work, and the one that stamps him as the greatest architect of his day, is the White Tower of London. Here he supervised the work himself, being given lodgings in the house of a city burgher while the work was proceeding.

It is hardly likely that he acted only in the capacity of such men as William of Wykeham or Poore of Salisbury, that is, as building owners, or clients as we should describe them to-day, if he was given so much secular work to do; and even if that were his position, there would hardly have been the necessity for a man of his multifarious activities actually to live upon the site. He was evidently the directing genius, in other words, the architect, and he is even credited with having invented the square Norman

donjon. His chief ecclesiastical works, besides numerous churches, most of which have since been rebuilt or altered, are Rochester Cathedral and this Abbey of Malling. Here was his home, and here he lived in a house designed by himself but of which no traces remain. He governed the abbey himself until shortly before his death when he installed Alicia as first abbess. He died in 1108 at the age of 84, and was attended during his last moments by his lifelong friend Anselm, and was buried in his own Cathedral of Rochester.

The Abbey Church of Malling was consecrated in 1103, five years before Gundulph's death. The lower part of the west tower is his work, and the same treatment of shallow buttresses and plain arched recesses are characteristic of him and are similar to his work at Rochester. The great church is now in ruins but the western tower still stands. The church was originally cruciform, without aisles, and had a square east end. Though only the foundations, in most cases, of the walls remain, the south transept has been left fairly intact and is now used as a chapel. The vicissitudes of time have removed or covered up other parts of Gundulph's work, but sufficient remains to allow a mental picture being formed of what his work was like. A good deal of it was destroyed in the great fire that laid low abbey and town alike in 1190, and the more elaborate style of work with shafted arcades that are visible on the upper part of the west front evidently dates from this time.

The institution of a monastic order soon had a beneficial effect on the town. Hitherto it had been known as Malling Parva, to distinguish it from the larger place a few miles eastwards, but towards the end of the thirteenth century the abbess claimed liberties in the parish together with "utgangenthef and warren in all her lands at Malling by grant from King Henry from time beyond memory," and also fairs and markets. The town soon developed and the population increased, as Hasted says, to the no small emolument of the nuns, and the epithet of "Parva" was transferred to East Malling, and Town Malling, which it has since retained, was substituted.

Little has been recorded of the doings of the nuns. The silence of history is a sure sign of a peaceful and, let us hope, prosperous development. Occasionally the veil is lifted, and we hear that the nuns complained to the bishop of bad management, whereupon the abbess resigned and the Lady Agnes de Leybourne was installed. This lady had not entirely thrown over the world and its ways, for she has left a remarkable and permanent record of her rule in the shape of a stone underground passage that connects the abbey with Leybourne Castle a mile or so distant. The passage, though now bricked up a short distance from the entrance, still remains complete even to the iron sconces



INSIDE ELEVATION OF GATEHOUSE.

P.M. ANDREWS
MENS ET DEL.

0 10 20 30 40 FEET.

built into the ashlar walls. What purpose it served we do not know, though it is supposed that she attended masked balls in the castle hall. But what a colossal undertaking for such a purpose!

In 1324 Lora de Retling, or more probably Detling, succeeded her, but the bishop was dubious of her qualifications and took away the abbey seal, forbidding her to use it without his special sanction. This seal can still be seen at the Record Office. It bears an impression of the Virgin and Child in the upper part and below a figure holding what is apparently a crozier. The inscription, which is quite clear, runs, "Siggily, commune, monasterii, Beate, Marie, de West Malling."

The Black Death left its mark here as elsewhere, and it is noteworthy that the religious houses, despite their higher standard of living and advanced sanitary arrangements, suffered as severely as the lay population. Two abbesses died, and there only remained four nuns and as many lay sisters, and since none of them were considered fit for the office of abbess, the custody of the spiritual matters was given to one of the nuns and the temporalities to one of the lay sisters.

For nearly 200 years the community continued its peaceful and beneficent life. Nothing of great import occurred, and all that is known of the inner life of the monastery is gathered from wills and bequests. In 1490 we read that Margaret Norton, one of the nuns, desired to be buried next her brother in the cloister, and she left 3s. 6d. for a light to burn in the Lady Chapel. The Vicar of Stone, Sir John Whitmor, in 1498 left to the abbey a chasuble of white damask with branches, and asked to be buried in the Chapel of Our Lady. One of the last bequests was from William Hunt, of Cobham, and is rather a strange one. It dates from 1527, and runs, "My grete brass pott to the Abbey of Mallyng and I gif to the mayntenance of the sepultures lighth in the saide abbey ijs." Even in the sixteenth century two shillings would not have gone very far, so possibly the "grete pott" was valuable. Malling is rather famous for pots and jugs. Was it not quite recently that a jug was found in the vicarage that when sold fetched such a sum that made possible a complete restoration of the parish church? That was indeed a noble "pott" and its effigy is to-day carved in the stone of the church wall.

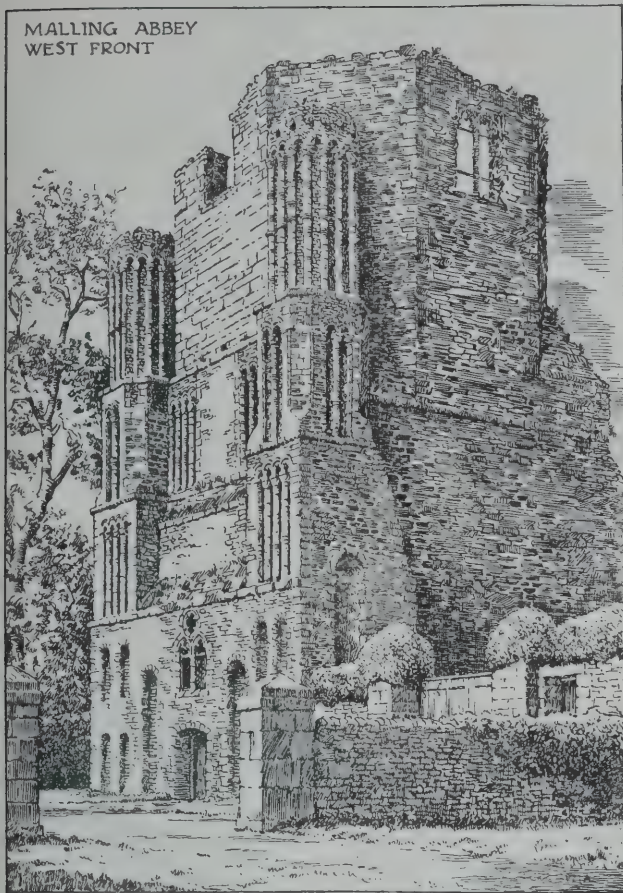
The active history of the abbey is drawing to a close. The mutterings of the great storm that was soon to beat down upon the church were making themselves felt, and though the quiet, uneventful life went on as before, and the pilgrims to the shrine of St. Thomas continued in unabated numbers, while belief in miracles and the worship of relics were as strong as ever, signs were not wanting to indicate that the days of these superstitions were closing.

The quarrel with the Pope, the irregularities of the clergy, and the advance of rationalistic thinking must have penetrated even into the remoter districts. News would have travelled speedily down the Pilgrims' Way, and the stories told of the visit of Erasmus and Colet to the Shrine show the doubts that must have crept into men's minds. The assumption of the Royal Supremacy by the King and the violent acts that followed to maintain it caused consternation in the clerical ranks. Cromwell was appointed Vicar-General and the visitation of the monasteries began.

The Abbess of Malling at this time was Dame Margaret Vernon. She had originally been Prioress of Little Marlow, and when that house had been dissolved she had been promoted to Malling. But her tenure of office was not of long duration. In June, 1538, various claimants made their appearance in the hopes of seizing the property as soon as Cromwell's hand fell upon it, and the abbess begged him to tell her what answer she shall make to all men. She had not long to wait. On October 28 she asked that she might have permission to sell some of the abbey lands so as to make provision for the sisters and buy for herself a living with such of her friends as will have her, failing which she asks for pensions of £4 a year for the nuns and £50 for herself. The day following the surrender was made, and the seal of the monastery was attached to the document, though there were no signatures. The abbess wrote to Cromwell the same day, having heard that the King desired her to see him, saying that she would come but trusts that he will consider her "age and unablensness to journey so far in one day" but hopes to be with him on Friday.

The community received their pensions in the following December, but not quite the amounts Dame Vernon had asked for, the six professed nuns getting £3 6s. 8d. and the five lay sisters £2 13s. 4d., while she herself was granted £40 a year. Considering the increased value of money in those days, she must have been left quite comfortably off, and the stories that have been told of the country being flooded with destitute nuns and monks are utterly untrue.

The advocates for and against the dissolution of the monasteries will argue to the end of time, but few will now deny that these institutions had outlived their usefulness. Efforts by Sudbury and Wareham for their reform had been made, but they were of a half-hearted nature, and the conditions in which the monks lived, the luxury and worldliness of their superiors had been a by-word for centuries. Some very drastic changes were required; though whether anything less than what was actually carried out would have been effective, it is useless to speculate. Dugdale, who describes himself as a sincere though unworthy member of the Church of England, says, "The Monastic Institution is very ancient and it had been very laudable had he (Henry) reduced the Manner of

MALLING ABBEY
WEST FRONT

Worship to the Primitive Form." That, probably, is the opinion of most people, but the task was insuperable.

The Abbey of Malling, after its suppression, became the property of the Crown and was sold under the Great Seal to Thomas Cranmer and his successors, together with lands and properties excepting the patronage of livings. It again reverted to the Crown in the early days of Queen Elizabeth, and was sold shortly after to the brother of Lord Cobham. His lands were eventually forfeited, owing to his participation in the plot to place the unfortunate Arabella Stuart on the throne and the property once more went back to the King, this time James I, who granted it to John Rayney, from whom it later descended to Edward Honeywood. The only reason for recording the name of this gentleman is that he is responsible for its destruction. Up to his time, the church and monastic buildings, though sadly dilapidated, were still standing, but he determined to improve the place and built a large house in the "Gothick Taste" for which the old buildings provided the materials. His eighteenth-century house still stands and, fortunately, the south walk of the thirteenth-century cloister was preserved, one of the earliest cloister arcades in the country.

The abbey church, with the exception of the west front and south transept, is almost totally destroyed, but what remains is sufficient to indicate the splendour of the place, including as it does some of the original work of Gundulph. The foundations of the walls can still be traced, and a mound at the east end is supposed to mark the position of the high altar.

The gatehouse of the abbey is the most complete relic of its monastic days and is a peculiarly charming example of the simpler mediæval manner. It is full of interest, and the hand of the destroyer and the restorer has spared it. It is L shaped, providing accommodation for the porter and probably the chaplain, with a chapel projecting eastwards. This latter is of fourteenth century date, but the other part of the house, including the fine archway, are some hundred years later. The pilgrims were evidently lodged here, for at the south-west corner is an irregularly shaped annexe with a separate entrance which was their bath. This must have been welcome when they were on the July pilgrimage, but they must have been hardy folk who used it during the December festivities, for it was on

December 29 that the martyr was slain. Having bathed—they would certainly not have been let into the abbey precincts before—the pilgrims went to the chapel to offer their thanksgivings for a safe journey, and were then conducted to the refectory which is now the ante-chapel, but its great fireplace still remains to recall its original purpose.

The west front of the gatehouse, including the fine fifteenth-century archway, are all in splendid preservation, and the row of shields bearing the emblems of the passion and the bleeding heart are as sharp as when they were carved, some five centuries ago. Evidently for defensive reasons this side was built in stone, for on passing under the gateway, which on the inside is furnished with oak posts, it will be seen that the upper storey projects some two feet and is built of wood beams plastered over. The variety of material is very effective, and the contrast between the severe and solid exterior and the homely and comfortable effect of the inside is very expressive of the purpose for which it was built. The rooms are all formed of finely moulded oak beams and lighted with leaded panes, and the peace of monastic days still lingers, despite the vicissitudes of three centuries of turmoil and change.

The Abbey of St. Mary has once more become the home of the religious. A community of nuns of the same order that the founder originally instituted, again occupy its ancient walls, and the offices are chanted once more in the south transept of the old church.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago

OCTOBER 16, 1875.

LONDON BRIDGE.

The accompanying engraving has been carefully reduced from the coloured lithograph which accompanied the report to the Bridge House Committee, by Mr. Horace Jones, the City Architect, and Mr. Charles Hutton Gregory, C.E. A more precise notion of what is proposed to be executed can be derived from it than from the descriptive accounts which have been published. One point, however, it cannot represent. While it shows the extent to which the faces of the existing structure will be concealed by iron, it cannot show the discord between the colour of the stonework of the voussoirs and the bright green and gold of the ironwork. We need not again discuss the demerits of the proposed plan of widening the bridge; but, apart from all questions of the eligibility of this mode of solving the problem, everyone who sees the design must be struck with the absence of all architectural feeling from the details. Seldom is there an opportunity of architects being allowed to aid engineers in perfecting designs, but there would be some difficulty in discovering what is gained by the co-operation in the present instance. Except that they may be painted in a more sober colour than is intended for London Bridge, the ordinary arched railway bridges over rivers show quite as much taste. Let any firm of iron contractors be offered the chance of supplying the ironwork, and they would furnish as pleasing a design gratuitously. If the Court of Common Council will, in opposition to public opinion, carry out the plans of Messrs. Jones and Gregory, we hope that some competent assistance may be obtained to remove the commonplace character of the design, especially as regards the piers, spandrels, and parapet. An iron structure like what is indicated in the engraving would be altogether unworthy of the principal bridge of the metropolis.

We suppose that it may now be taken for granted that the bridge is to be widened in the manner suggested. At the meeting of the Court of Common Council on the 7th inst., Sir Thomas Dakin moved—"That it be an instruction to the Bridge House Estates Committee, before taking any steps to carry out the order of the Court of September 16 last, to consider and report to this Court the possibility of relieving the growing traffic over London Bridge by other means than by widening the present bridge, without making the necessary increase of the approaches thereto." Mr. Gover, in seconding him, said that he never knew a scheme which the entire Press and the engineering profession as a body had so unanimously and heartily condemned. Sir William Rose said that the Corporation had obtained much credit for its works of public improvement, but its reputation would leave it if, in a hasty and inconsiderate manner, it sanctioned the destruction of one of the finest ornaments of London. But on a division Sir Thomas Dakin's motion was lost by a majority of six. On the other hand, it is worth remark that the Lord Mayor on Monday, when "inaugurating" the works of the Thames Steam Ferry Company, said that, although it had been determined to widen London Bridge, yet it was impossible to say whether the project would ever be carried out.

Central Research Laboratories of Radiation, Limited.

Opening Ceremony.

The opening ceremony of the New Central Research Laboratories of Radiation, Ltd., at Radiation House, No. 15 Grosvenor Place, S.W., was performed by Mr. D. Milne Watson, D.L., President of the National Gas Council of Great Britain and Ireland and Governor of the Gas Light and Coke Company.

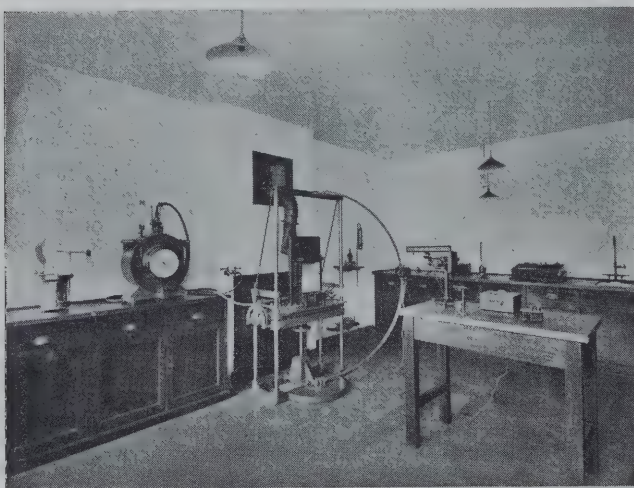
The amalgamation in 1919 of the six firms constituting Radiation Ltd., resulted in a co-ordination of their laboratory work.



GENERAL LABORATORY.

In the new central laboratories will be carried out investigations of a fundamental nature, which it is hoped, will lead to that discovery of new facts necessary in certain directions before any further large developments can be made.

Mr. H. James Yates, Chairman of Radiation, Ltd., welcomed the guests on behalf of himself and his co-Directors, and in the course of a short speech expressed the satisfaction of the realisation of a life-long ideal in the possession of laboratories devoted to pure research. Such a thing however, to be carried out by an individual concern is a big undertaking; and it was only with the formation of Radiation, Ltd., that it became possible. The laboratories here will be for pure research, and fortunately we have a most able staff for the purpose—Dr. Hartley, our chief chemist, being admirably seconded by Mr. Hamilton Davies and others. Now, in pure research we are investigating problems far removed from our ordinary everyday work. We are not dealing, in many cases, with the apparatus we are making to-day, but with fundamentals that we hope in future to make use of in the development of the gas industry. The carbon monoxide bogey arises at intervals. We have developed means of determining carbon monoxides when present only to the extent of one or two parts per million. . . . Continuing, Mr. Yates referred to the work the laboratories had been doing in connection with the examination of the wave-lengths of energy emitted by different types of heating appliances. In closing, he also mentioned a research apparatus used in connection with gas fire burners. Many would be astonished to find that even a gas fire burner is the subject of very close investigation.



PHYSICAL LABORATORY.

Mr. D. Milne Watson addressed the gathering as follows: "Mr. Yates, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel it a very great honour indeed that I have been asked by Mr. Yates and his co-Directors to come here to-day to open the research laboratory in this building. I was very glad to accept his invitation as I approve so entirely of the steps taken by Radiation, Ltd. As you heard from Mr. Yates, this laboratory, while primarily designed to help Radiation, Ltd. to solve their own particular problems, will also be available for general work, and it is hoped will benefit the whole of the industry throughout the country.

The installation of these laboratories is not the only disinterested work of this character that Radiation, Ltd., have done. You will all like to know that Radiation, Ltd., have lately endowed a fellowship at the Imperial College of Science, South Kensington, for the purpose of carrying out research there. It is an excellent step, and under the guidance of our friend Professor Bone, I have no doubt it will be a very considerable aid to science.

I particularly welcome this step which has been taken by Mr. Yates and his colleagues on the Board of Radiation, Ltd., as there is nothing more important at the present time than scientific research; and this is equally important whether it is on the side of the manufacture of gas or on the side of the utilisation of gas. It is no use for the gas undertakings to perfect



CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

the carbonisation of coal unless the gas supplied is burnt in up-to-date appliances. There are a vast number of problems on the side of gas manufacture to be solved; but there are also many on the other side to be attacked, and it is well that a firm of such importance as Radiation, Ltd., should take the lead in this matter, as they have long done in other things. There never was a time when research was more needed in all industries, and particularly so in the older ones, like the gas industry, which had its origin away back in the early days of last century.

Mark you, in this case it is not a question of the supersession of one industry by another; there is no question of gas being superseded by electricity. Nothing is further, of course, from the truth, notwithstanding all that electricity has done and can do. The sphere of gas in the domestic and industrial life of the country is there, and is absolutely assured. The uses of gas may change, but the carbonisation of coal and the utilisation of gas belong as much to the future as electricity, as no one with any foresight can doubt. As I have said before, however, it is all the more necessary that an industry which has passed, so to speak, out of the stage of being a novelty, and has, therefore, lost its hold to a certain extent on the popular and scientific interest outside its own circle, should devote its own energies to seeing that it does not lag or fall behind. I am glad to say that the gas industry is very much alive in this direction. Both at Leeds University and in the research laboratories of the various gas undertakings, and now in the laboratory of Radiation, Ltd., questions are being tackled which are vital to the prosperity of the industry; and it is gratifying to know that this, which is one of the oldest industries, is in the forefront, and is to-day most carefully studying the problems which it has to face. I wish every success to Radiation, Ltd., in their enterprise—especially if what they have done will not only advance themselves but the whole industry. I feel that we as an industry shall owe them a

great debt of gratitude for helping us. I have great pleasure in declaring the firm's new central research laboratories open."

Mr. Yates: There falls upon me the pleasant duty of proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Milne Watson for coming to open these laboratories, and for saying what he has with regard to the work we have done, are doing, and hope to do. My co-Directors and I want you to feel that these laboratories are open for the development of everything that is good in the gas industry, and that it is our intention to assist development in every way we can. These laboratories are, of course, only intended to deal with a certain section of work; but within the limits of that section we are always wishful to help the industry. Therefore we hope you will not hesitate to consult us on any doubtful points.

Mr. H. M. Thornton, in seconding the vote of thanks, expressed their sense of indebtedness which was due to Mr. Milne Watson for not only being present but for the encouraging remarks he made in regard to the work that has been done by Radiation, Ltd.

Mr. J. H. Ellis, President of the British Commercial Gas

Association, on behalf of the commercial section of the industry, associated himself with what had been so well said by Mr. Yates and Mr. Thornton in thanking Mr. Milne Watson.

Professor W. A. Bone read an extract from a letter he had received from the Rector of the Imperial College who greatly regretted being unable to be present. The extract read as follows:

"This new enterprise on the part of Radiation, Ltd., is consistent with the liberal policy that they have adopted hitherto in their support of both fundamental and applied research; and my colleagues join me in wishing success to an activity which will ensure the development of an industry of fundamental public importance. If in any way we can assist in the solution of special and accessory problems, your association can always count on the ready co-operation of the college staff."

The vote of thanks to Mr. Milne Watson was carried by acclamation, and thereafter the visitors separated into two parties for the purpose of inspecting the laboratories and enjoying two excellent propaganda cinema films which the firm have had prepared. Tea brought a delightful function to a close.

General News.

BRISTOL.—A scheme has been prepared for extensions at Frenchay Park sanatorium at a cost of £45,800.—In connection with the acquisition of the Blaise Castle estate the Health Committee propose to convert the mansion into a convalescent home for 50 patients.

CHELMSFORD.—The borough engineer has prepared plans for another 250 houses on the Boarded Barns estate, the total cost being estimated at £119,322.

DARLEY.—A new school for 150 children is to be erected at Darley by the Farnworth Urban District Council.

DONCASTER.—The Town Council have placed the contract with Messrs. Thomson & Dixon, Ltd., contractors, of Doncaster, for the erection of a new open-air school at Warmsworth. The building is planned to accommodate 240 scholars in two separate departments and to be equipped with an administrative and medical block, a dining room and bath rooms. The plans have been prepared by Messrs. Walker & Thompson, F.R.I.B.A., of Carbon Chambers, Doncaster, and Mr. H. L. Paterson, F.R.I.B.A., of Sheffield, acting as consultant. The amount of Messrs. Thomson and Dixon's tender is £16,575. The Housing Committee of the Town Council have considered tenders for the construction of roads, footpaths, etc., on the Woodfield Lane site and recommended that the tender of Messrs. Swift Bros. & Haslam, Ltd., at £16,210, be accepted.

DUKINFIELD.—A plan of the proposed new domestic science centre to be erected on land adjacent to the Technical School, has been prepared by the borough surveyor, Mr. S. Hague, Town Hall, Dukinfield. It has been referred by the Education Committee of the Town Council to H.M. Inspectors for approval.

DUKINFIELD.—A tender of £8,440 submitted by Messrs. T. Woolley and Son, builders, of Ashton-under-Lyne, has been accepted by the Town Council for the erection of twenty houses on land in Zetland Street, Combermere Street, and Spencer Street. The plans have been prepared by Mr. Gibson, of Messrs. Lindley and Gibson, architects, Market Avenue, Ashton-under-Lyne. Work is to be commenced as early as possible.

EAST PRESTON.—The R.D.C. have decided to erect 12 houses at Durrington, 12 at East Preston, 12 at Angmering, 4 at Poling, and 4 at Warning Camp.

FAIRSWORTH.—Lancashire Education Committee are to proceed with the enlargement of the Minor Street infants' school, Fairsworth.

HARWICH.—Plans passed: 8 houses, Birch Avenue, Dovercourt, for Messrs. Fisher & Wood, builders, Elmhurst Road, Dovercourt.

LEWISHAM.—Plans passed: 78 houses, Cranston Road, for Messrs. Clout & Tysoe; 17 houses, Casslee Road, for Mr. George Watt; pavilion, Bromley Road, for Mr. H. R. Watt, builders, 151 Bromley Road, Catford, S.E.6; 6 houses, Adansrill Road, for Messrs. Dorrell Bros., builders, 51 London Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23.

NEWPORT (I.O.W.).—Plans passed: alterations to premises, 112 Lower James Street, for Messrs. Stratton & Millgate, architects.

OTLEY.—The Council have accepted the tender of Messrs. W. J. & R. Turnbull for the erection of 12 type 1 houses at £405 each, and 14 each of types 2 and 3 at £453 each.

PETERSFIELD.—The R.D.C. have prepared a scheme for drainage at Steep to cost £3,400.—Mr. Draper, of Fareham, has purchased land from the Council for the erection of 48 houses.

PLYMOUTH.—The borough engineer has prepared a lay-out of the Higher Mount Gould Estate, providing for the erection of 205 houses, and has been instructed to prepare revised house plans.—The Ministry of Health have issued the necessary loan sanctions for the Embankment Road improvement, which will cost £84,000.—A loan of £2,800 has been sanctioned for the erection of a refreshment pavilion at the Hoe.—The Markets Committee are to meet the wholesale traders to discuss the extension of the wholesale meat market.—The Governors of Plymouth College have arranged for a scheme of extensions to cost £7,000.—Plans passed: 6 houses, West Down Road, for Mr. J. W. Binmore; 8 houses, Old Laira Road, for Mr. J. A. Blatchford, additions to sweet factory, West Hoe Road, for Messrs. Tuckett; 10 houses, Landyrock Road, for Messrs. F. Downard & Son; 4 houses, Landyrock Road, for Messrs. Hayter & Coles, chemical laboratory, Plymouth College, for Governors; office extension, Laira Wharf, for English China Clays, Ltd.; workshop, Clarendon Place, for Messrs. Trend & Co.

STALYBRIDGE.—The Education Committee have prepared plans for the conversion of West Hill House into a school at an estimated cost of £13,000.

TORQUAY.—Messrs. Vanstone & Son, builders and contractors, 240 Union Street, propose to erect 300 houses on the Daison estate, and are negotiating with the Corporation for the laying of gas mains.—Messrs. Ball & Wilkinson, builders, 13 Walnut Road, Chelston, propose to build a large number of houses in the Barton district.—A loan of £10,500 is to be sought for the erection of 21 houses for housing persons displaced in the Pimlico clearance scheme.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Sherwell Park Road, for Chelston Building Co.; alterations, Palace Hotel, for Hotel Co.; 6 houses, Barton Road, for Messrs. Easton & Steer; 6 houses, Sherwell Park Road, for Messrs. Riggs, Waldron & Cole; alterations, Whitecliff Hospital, for trustees; alterations, Cary Castle, for Mr. Hamlyn; 39 houses at Barton, for Messrs. Ball & Wilkinson; amended lay-out of Cockington estate, for trustees.—The Education Committee recommend the tender, £27,036, of Mr. R. E. Narracott, of Torquay, for the erection of an elementary school at Westhill.

WAKEFIELD.—Plans for the extension of the maternity hospital are to be submitted to the Ministry of Health, the cost being estimated at £5,000.—The city engineer has been requested to prepare plans for the erection of a wholesale warehouse on the market estate.—Another 75 houses are to be subsidised.—Plans passed: additions to warehouse, Ings Road, for Messrs. W. Saville & Sons; Alterations and additions to brewery, Parliament Street, for Messrs. H. B. Clark & Co., Ltd.; garage and motor workshop, Ings Road, for Messrs. W. Burrows & Sons.

WESTMINSTER.—The Insurance Unemployment Board Incorporated, are acquiring the freehold of the disused Scotland Yard fire station from the L.C.C. for £22,000.

WEYMOUTH.—The Harbour Committee have asked for preparation of detailed plans for the proposed new town bridge.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the erection by the Corporation of 44 houses at a cost of £23,297.—Mr. W. Knell is to erect 8 bungalows in Coronation Road.

WITHAM.—The Urban District Council have prepared a scheme for the extension of the Municipal offices.

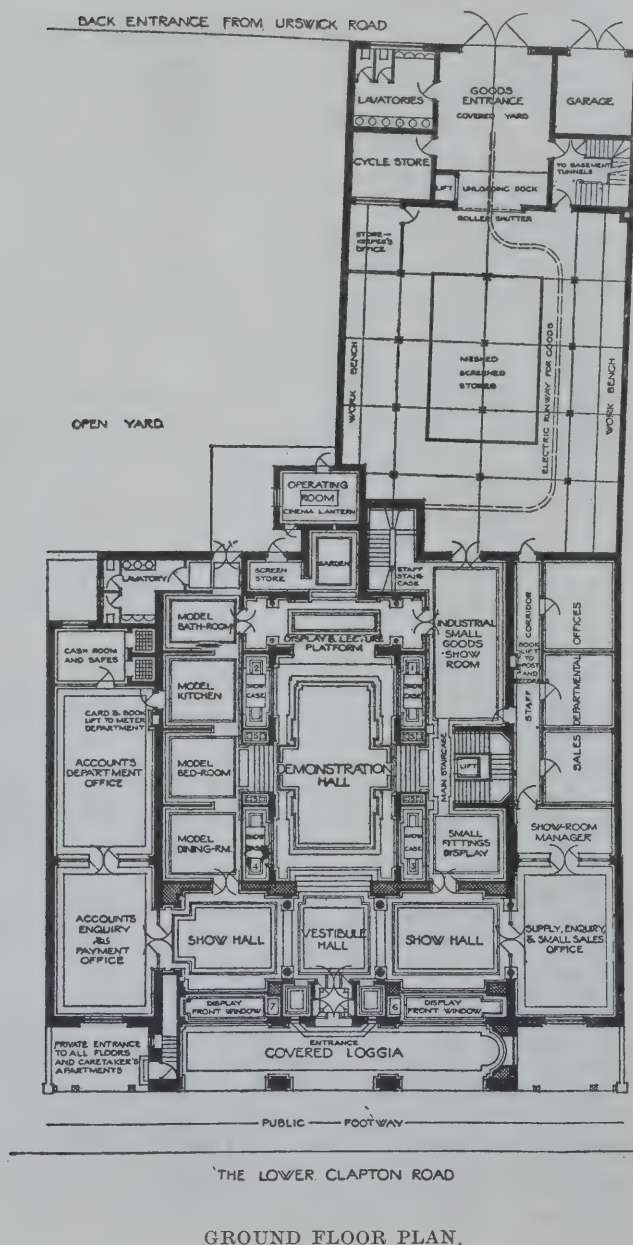
WOOLWICH.—Messrs. Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., are to erect a large building at Westfield Street, Woolwich.

New Electricity Demonstration Halls and Offices, Hackney.

Opening Ceremony.



MAIN FRONT. J. A. BOWDEN, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

The history of Hackney's electricity development and enterprise dates back exactly twenty-five years. On four different dates in the month of October the borough has registered an advance in its electrical power development. October 18, 1900, witnessed the laying of the foundation stone of the Hackney Electricity Works and Refuse Destructor. On October 31, 1901, the Mayor of Hackney (Viscount Horncastle) declared the works open. On October 25, 1923, the Mayor (Councillor John Genese, J.P.) opened officially a large extension of the works mentioned, and on October 8, 1925, the Mayor (Councillor E. Farmer, J.P.) opened the new electricity demonstration halls. The building, which has been designed by Mr. J. A. Bowden, F.R.I.B.A., is very dignified and the plan shows careful disposition to meet the various needs for which the building has been erected. The elevation consists of a centre section rising to a height of 55 feet with three circular headed windows supporting each side of the central section, but slightly advanced and lower single windowed wing towers give additional character to the design.

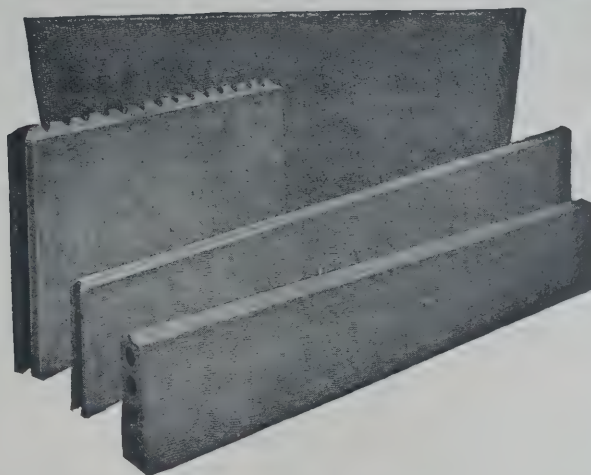
To the right and left of the vestibule, which is approached through a centrally placed door, two spacious showrooms have been designed. The demonstration hall which is 40 feet by 22 feet, faces the entrance and will comfortably seat one hundred persons. Showcases are fitted round the walls of this hall.

A suite of model rooms has been arranged consisting of a dining and bedroom, kitchen and bath room; all the latest electrical inventions applicable to domestic service and comfort can be here inspected. This set of rooms is a very good arrangement and the organisers will find that much practical good will result therefrom.

On the other side of the hall is a special fittings room. This is followed by the main staircase and electric passenger lift serving the upper floors of the premises, and beyond, a factory and workshop demonstration room in which various appliances for factory and workshop use will be shown and demonstrated. Leading out of this latter room, and at the rear of the premises, a consumers' appliance maintenance workshop has been erected complete with an electric runway for handling goods and centrally placed wire-meshed enclosed stores with workshop benches arranged around all sides where repairs of cookers and other domestic appliances will be easily and quickly dealt with. The workshops and stores are to form a part of the industrial demonstration room and it is the intention of the department to encourage consumers to see there all kinds of electrical apparatus under repair, and in addition, demonstrations of electric welders, furnaces, magnets and the hundred-and-one gadgets essential to the proper equipment of every up-to-date workshop.

On the right of the entrance vestibule is the enquiry and sales office. On the opposite side of the vestibule the accounts and payment offices have been placed, by this arrangement business can be effectively disposed of by each of the separate functions for which the building has been erected.

CONCRETE BLOCKS "KING" PLASTER SLABS



Partitions, External Walls, Ceilings, Roofs, etc.

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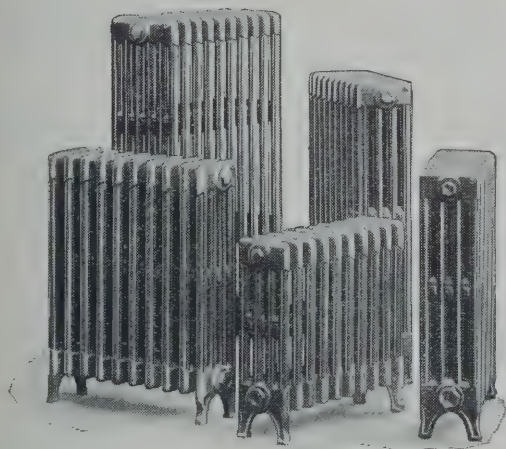
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London Showrooms: 439 & 441 Oxford Street, W.1.
Telephone: Mayfair 4360 (5 lines). Telegrams: "Idealrad, London."

The first floor is devoted to general offices, mailing and record filing departments. The chief engineer's office and the committee room with other offices have found a convenient place on this floor. The drawing office is on the second floor and has a good north light. A dining room and kitchen for the staff, the latter equipped with two electric cookers and a fish fryer, refrigerator, etc., forming a really live demonstration kitchen.

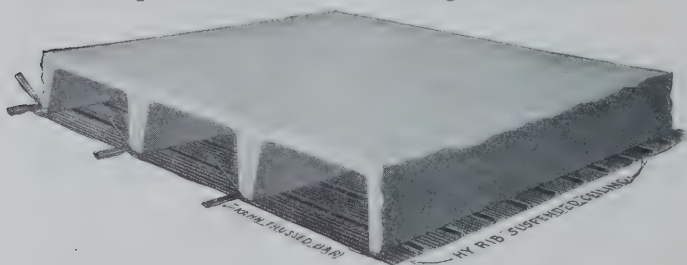
The general contractors for the whole building were Messrs. J. Jarvis & Sons, 8 Wormwood Street, E.C.2, and the following sub-contractors were associated with the enterprise:—Tiling, terrazzo and sanitary fittings, Carter & Co.; decorative plaster, Cashmore Art Workers; cement and lime, Cement Marketing Co.; stone facade to Lower Clapton Road, Empire Stone Co., Strand, W.C.2; wrought iron work, Haywards, Ltd.; wood block flooring, J. Ebnor & Co.; strong room doors, John Tann, Ltd.; lifts, passenger and document, Marryat & Scott, Hatton Gardens, E.C.; heating, Rosser & Russell; artificial stone staircase, etc., Stuarts Granolithic Co.; steel construction, Smith, Walker, Ltd.; asphalt, Ragusa Asphalte Co.; bricks, Plowmans Brickfields, Ltd.; ironmongery, Yannedis & Co.; casements and showcases, Williams & Williams.

Trade Notes.

Truscon Floor.

The importance of the floor as a structural part of a building has been fully recognised by the inventors of the Truscon floor. It is, in brief, a reproduction of the principle of a timber floor in reinforced concrete.

The difference in the prices between Truscon floors and timber floors is very small indeed, perhaps a matter of 10 per cent. one way or the other in respect to small light loads and heavy loads or long spans. The chief saving is realised in the extra life of a concrete floor and the capitalised value of the reduction of insurance premiums on both the building and its contents. A



A SECTION OF THE TRUSCON FLOOR.

comparison between a six-inch solid slab at 72 lb. per square foot with a six-inch Truscon slab at 34 lb. per square foot will give a very convincing proof of the advantages of the Truscon floor as compared with solid slabs which add a heavy deadweight to the foundations of a building. This difference is emphasised in the case of deeper floors, as at 8 inches the weights are 96 lb. per square foot against 39 lb. or 120 lb. against 44 lb. for a 10-inch Truscon slab.

The Truscon floor increases the strength of the entire framework of the building. It is cast at the same time and in one piece with either the concrete casing to the steel beams or the reinforced concrete beams, or on the wall in the case of brick buildings.

The cheapest structure is obtained when the span of the floor is between 15-20 feet. When circumstances demand longer spans the Truscon floor holds its own against all rivals. Semi-skilled labour can be used for the falswork of the Truscon floor. And the use of Kahn trussed bars renders the incorrect placing of the reinforcing steel almost impossible.

Removable steel troughs or tiles are used. The troughs or tiles are bolted to, and temporarily supported by, timber bearers spaced at distances 2 feet apart. The troughs are connected to the bearers by means of steel brackets or clips which are bolted to them. The bearers are temporarily suspended from the main beams or girders by means of bolts. In the placing of the steel troughs a 4 inch space is left between each row of troughs. Reinforcing rods are placed in the 4-inch space, the concrete is poured into it, and a layer of concrete is laid on the top of the steel troughs. A few days after the concrete is poured the steel troughs are unbolted from the bearers and removed for use on successive floors. As soon as the concrete is set sufficiently to carry its load, the timber bearers may be removed and a flat soffit can be obtained by the use of a suspended ceiling.

Boyle's patent "Air-Pump" Ventilator has been applied to the Upton House School, Hackney, London. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Mastic (Natural Rock) Asphalt.

Whilst touring in many parts of England motorists see sign-boards stating that the road is under repair. When actually arriving at the section undergoing reconstruction a board announces the fact that the Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., are relaying the surface. A short distance further on the motorist is able to travel over a road which is finished and which makes travelling a delight. The Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., have had fifty-four years' experience of asphalt work. Their varied activities in connection with erection, extension, repair and reconstruction of buildings has provided ample opportunity to prove the most satisfactory methods of manufacture and application of mastic asphalt. Branch office managers—and these are well distributed all over the country—are in constant touch with the chief office, and with one another, thereby making it possible to supply authentic and complete information in reply to any query.

Natural rock asphalt has no satisfactory substitute. Its unique properties were first applied in the early part of the seventeenth century, Bitumen similar to that contained in the rock being used for waterproofing purposes in Babylonian times.

The Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd. (chief office, 34 Victoria Street, S.W.1), has sent us a well illustrated and interesting booklet showing the many useful purposes to which mastic (natural rock) asphalt can be successfully applied, in addition to much other interesting data on the subject of asphalt.

1,000 Steel-framed Bungalows.

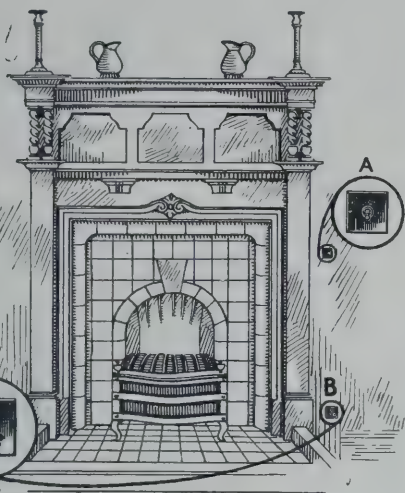
Subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, the Nottingham City Council has accepted the tender of Messrs. John Booth & Sons, the well-known structural engineers, of Bolton, for 1,000 steel-framed bungalows, which are to be built on the "Crane" system. Mr. Crane is the chairman of the Housing Committee, and in conjunction with Mr. T. Wallis Gordon, city engineer, and Mr. T. C. Howitt, D.S.O., city architect, has devised this particular type of construction. Many of the details were worked out and developed by Messrs. John Booth & Sons. The demonstration pair of bungalows were erected in 11 working days. The steel framework and steel roof principals form a self-contained structure in exactly the same manner as the skeleton steel buildings so often seen in the principal streets of our big cities. The walls are of concrete blocks and the roof is covered with russet brown pantiles, which give an attractive and pleasing appearance to the bungalows externally. Internally they are conveniently planned and contain large living room, three bedrooms, bathroom, working scullery, larder and coal-house. The total cost, excluding land and main sewers, is just under half a million, and the Corporation has secured a site at Wollaton Park just outside the city. The whole scheme will form one of the most attractive housing propositions in the country. It is interesting to note that Messrs. Booths have a large stand in the Palace of Housing and Transport at Wembley, and this was visited last week by numbers of delegates and corporation officials, who had forgathered at the invitation of the Minister of Health and the British Empire Exhibition authorities, to a Housing Conference and a tour of the Palace of Housing. Considerable interest was manifested by the delegates, not only in the photographs and illustrations of the "Crane" houses, but also in an exhibit of the "Bolton" type of steel-framed house, which the firm is developing and building in their own town.

Competition Note.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MOSQUE OF AMROU COMPETITION, CAIRO.

Members of the Royal Institute who are considering taking part in the above competition are strongly recommended to consult the Secretary R.I.B.A. before deciding to compete.

The main thoroughfare from Slough to Windsor is in process of development, as we notice also is the case in the Bath Road, where the terrors of Hounslow Heath have long since been displaced and where the peaceful penetration of houses takes precedence over the picturesque lawlessness of former years and the no less picturesque neglect of more recent days. In Windsor Road, opposite Upton Park, Slough, one of the latest buildings is a house in course of erection from the design of Mr. T. W. Bowyer, the builder being H. W. Rackley; Doulton's, for pipes; Binfield, for red bricks; and H. H. Harris (of Edgware Road), for sanitary fittings and grates. Just in the rear of Windsor Road, too, we notice houses being erected in King's Road.



Craftsmanlike Switches

THE general convenience and comfort of electricity in the home can often be augmented by arranging that switches are fixed at points readily accessible.

Our illustration shows how the common inconvenience of a combined switch plug at point B (often necessitating groping in the dark) can be readily overcome by the use of a "Crabtree" single-base Double-Pole Switch (particularly the flush type) at position marked "A," in conjunction with a 2 or 3-pin Plug at B.

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M.G.P.

Lighting the modern office

THE first requirement of an office lighting system is that it shall provide enough light of the right quality for the comfortable performance of work.

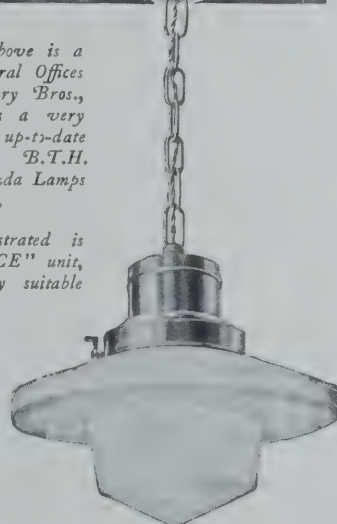
Another important factor is the maintenance. Dusty fittings are unsightly and cause loss of light through absorption. By the use of the "ACE" one-piece glassware dust is kept out of the fitting. This saves cleaning and current. The "ACE" diffuses the light uniformly throughout the office.

The "ACE" is particularly recommended where a fitting of distinctive and pleasing appearance, combined with comfortable and well diffused lighting, is essential.



The illustration above is a view of the General Offices of Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd., and affords a very good example of up-to-date office lighting. B.T.H. fittings with Mazda Lamps are used throughout.

The fitting illustrated is the B.T.H. "ACE" unit, which is specially suitable for office lighting.



Specify "ACE" Fittings

Advt. of The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd.

Building Progress.

Deleta est Devonshire House, Piccadilly! And however effective the replacing blocks of buildings may prove to be, we shall not easily cease to regret the disappearance of William Kent's interesting architecture. For the phoenixian Devonshire House, which, *inter alia*, will hold the new head offices of Messrs. Thomas Cook & Sons (which will be removed from Ludgate Circus, where for so many years they have been our *vis-à-vis*). Mr. Arnold B. Mitchell, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect, and Holland & Hannen & Cubitts, the general contractors; sub-contractors include:—B. Goodman, Ltd., for excavations; Caswell & Shearing, derrick cranes; C. Isler & Co., artesian wells; Redpath Brown & Co., Ltd., constructional steelwork; the Trussed Concrete Steel Co., Ltd., for their "Truscon" R.C. floors; Cement Marketing Co., for cement; Scaffolding (Great Britain), Ltd., for patent steel scaffolding; Richard Crittall & Co., Ltd., for panel system of heating; the Morris Westminster Guild, bronze shop fronts; Henry Hope & Co., Ltd., metal windows; and Hollis Brothers & Co., Ltd., for wood block flooring. Devonshire Court is another block rapidly arising on part of the magnificent garden of the old mansion, and still another block is in progress. Edcasters are the contractors for the former, and Moreland Hayne & Co. are supplying the structural steelwork.

Adjoining this mammoth site is another cleared area, where formerly stood the town houses of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts and others. St. Mary's Wharf are carrying out the excavations, but of this and neighbouring work we may have more to say in future issues.

In Hoop Lane, Golders Green, just where the river Brent disports itself as a narrow ribbon of water, the Unitarian Church of All Souls is in course of erection. The architects are Messrs. G. Reginald Farrow, F.R.I.B.A., and Sydney R. Turner. Runham Brown Brothers are the contractors. The Enfield Red Brick Co. are supplying the facing bricks.

Mr. Frank Haysman is the architect for extensive alterations to a two-storey block of buildings in Rushey Green Road, Catford. The upper storey is a billiards saloon, and shops are being provided on the ground floor. Courtney & Fairbairn are the contractors. Dark green narrow glazed facings are used for the ground storey, the first storey having red brick piers with pebble-dashed panels between. The site has a historic interest, as hereon formerly stood the old Lewisham Pound.

H.M. Office of Works is engaged upon the erection of a new Post Office at Mount Pleasant for H.M. P.-M.-G. The general contractors are Galbraith Brothers, and the following are at any rate some of the sub-contractors:—The London Asphalte Co., Ltd., and the Neuchatel Asphalte Co., Ltd., for asphalte work, the latter for the roofing; Williams & Williams, Ltd., for metal windows; Medway's and Marryat & Scott, for lifts. The Hennébiq system of reinforcement is being introduced.

Extensive new premises are being erected in Great Marlborough Street for Messrs. Paul Walser & Co., Ltd., the architects being Messrs. Nicholas & Dixon Spain, Hanover Square, W., and Chessums, Ltd., the general contractors; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., for steel construction; Diespeker's Big Span reinforced concrete flooring; Stigler lifts (Marcel Porn sole concessionaire for the U.K.); and Newton Water Engineering Co., Ltd., for their automatic sprinklers as fire protection.

New building in Upper Street, Islington, is just now in a state of great activity. Three or four years ago there was considerable commotion in the Islington Borough Council upon the matter of the alleged extravagance in providing a new Town Hall in place of the existing building in Upper Street. Into the merits of the dispute we need not here enter; at any rate the decision was taken to erect a new and more magnificent municipal block, and Mr. E. C. P. Monson, F.R.I.B.A., was employed as architect to carry out the work. The new building was placed on a site in the rear of Upper Street, but an extension (or is it a completion?) is now being constructed which will provide a fine elevation to the main road. The same architect has been engaged and the contractors are G. Bollom & Sons, Ltd. It is a two-storey stone-facaded block. The fibrous plaster has been supplied by F. de Jong's, Ltd.; marble by Anselm Odling & Sons, Ltd.; and Sandilands are carrying out the electrical installation. The same architect and general contractors are engaged upon the new housing scheme for the Borough Council on the adjacent property, where a representative terrace of old Islington houses must give way to modern requirements. William Shurmur & Sons, Ltd., are also to execute some of the new work. The Enfield Red Brick Co. are supplying the red facing bricks and the London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd., are supplying their well known "Phorpres" Fletton bricks. Just opposite this hive of industry the Sutton Estate is also being developed in a similar way, with Walter Lawrence & Son, Ltd., as general contractors.

Close to "The Architect" offices in Ludgate Circus we are having new neighbours in a block of shops now being erected by the Southern Railway Co. on the forecourt of Ludgate Hill Station, New Bridge Street. John Marsland & Sons, Ltd., are the builders; New Peterborough Brick Co., Ltd., are supplying the Fletton bricks; H. Young & Co., structural steel; Harvey Brothers for stonework; Morris Westminster Guild, metal windows and glazing; and Dynelex, Ltd., the electrical installation.

In Mare Street, Hackney, there is extensive work in hand on the extension of the Zinkin Factory. The general contractor is A. Bedford; Young & Co., for structural steelwork; Wembley Heating Co., Ltd., for heating installation; G. Wiggins, house-breaker and excavator; and Hammond Brothers & Champness, Ltd., lifts. The façade is naturally treated quite plainly, being in yellow stocks with 4-course red brick lacings.

Despite the various housing schemes in progress throughout the metropolis (without regarding those in progress elsewhere in the country) the necessities of the public are not met; but then this may be because the majority of these schemes are devoted to the interests of the artisan class—we must no longer call it the working class. The London County Council is very busy in this direction in various districts, amongst others in Wandsworth, where the East Hill Estate, once allocated to almshouses, is in process of development. Here upon eight acres a very large number of tenants will be able to be housed. The Council architect is very properly keeping the elevations simple but the brickwork is sufficiently pleasing now it is clean, though probably the tooth of time will render them all too dull; however, the red tiled roofs are commendable. The contractors are J. E. Billings and Co., Ltd. At Willesden the Urban District Council is developing the Brentfield Estate, where 100 houses are shortly to be erected, the Calway Construction Company being recommended as contractors at a price of just under £500 per house.

Townsend House, with frontages on Rochester Row, Greycoat Place and Greencoat Place, is an important edifice in course of erection as headquarters of the Girls' Friendly Society. The architects are Messrs. Wills & Kaula; J. W. Falkner & Sons are the general contractors; H. Young & Co., Ltd., for structural steel; W. James & Co., for wrought steel; Horace A. Cunis, for demolition and excavation; F. Bradford & Co., ferro-concrete staircases; Express Lift Co., Ltd., lifts; and G. N. Haden & Son, Ltd., for heating, hot water and ventilating. The elevations are mainly in dull red brick with gauged bright red brick arches and strips and with stone liberally introduced in entrances, strings and elsewhere. A couple of stone cartouches are very effectively inscribed in good lettering. The roofs are covered with Messrs. Roberts, Adlard's patent pantiles.

In our issue of July 31 last we referred to the new Kinema being erected in High Street, Kensington, from the designs of Messrs. Granger & Leathart; we can add to the list of sub-contractors therein given the firm of Campbell Brothers for decorations.

Additional also to our notice in our issue of July 31 last, we can give the following additional sub-contractors upon the new offices in Fleet Street for Messrs. Benn Brothers, for which Messrs. Campbell Jones, Sons & Smithers are the architects. Rashleigh, Phipps & Co., Ltd., electrical work; F. Bradford & Co. for the reinforced concrete staircases.

The extensive premises of Messrs. Swan & Edgar at the junction of Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus and Piccadilly are now partially undergoing reconstruction, and will doubtless ere long witness the complete disappearance of Nash's work at this corner. The architects are Messrs. Belcher & Joass Higgs & Hill, Ltd., are the general contractors; Moreland Hayne & Co., Ltd., structural steel; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell Ltd., artesian well engineering; Lawford & Co., for asphalte London Brick Co. and Forders, "Phorpres" Fletton bricks Rosser & Russell, Ltd., central heating; and Sage's for shop fittings. We hope, in a later issue, to add to the list of the sub-contractors.

Mr. David W. Beck is engaged upon the erection in West End Avenue (close to Epping Forest) of a large number of small residences; he is his own architect, and is certainly producing sufficiently attractive houses for the ever-seeking public. The accommodation is upon two floors, and consists of seven rooms in all. London Brick Company are supplying the "Star" Fletton bricks; R. & A. Main, for "Kentish" gas cookers, and "Mecoa" kitchenette combined range and sitting-room register. S. A. Clark's "The Master" W.W.P.; and "Vandas" pedestal w.c. apparatus. Electric light is laid on throughout, and gas is carried to the bedrooms, for alternative use for fires.

CONTENTS.

The Architect's Troubles	PAGE 285	By-Laws and Principles	PAGE 295
The Follies of 1950	289	Art Notes	298
The Abbey on the Dart	291	General News	300
Correspondence	294	Building Progress in and near London	302

The Architect's Troubles.



PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSE, TYPE C.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

The architect, in common with his fellows of other callings, is born to trouble, and his troubles may arise in many ways, each of which seems for the time being the greatest of tragedies. His troubles, like diseases, may be divided under many heads, and although he may with the sword of wise decision cut off one, there will always be others remaining to disturb his peace of mind. We will try to enumerate some of these difficulties, and if we can by doing so arouse the sympathy of the public the architect will undoubtedly

benefit by that sympathy in greater consideration afforded him by his fellow men.

First and foremost among his every day difficulties is that of obtaining the completion of any building in the time allotted under the contract. Many architects have, during the progress of the works, had little or no trouble with their clients or their builders until the last stages of building are reached. A client frequently asks if his house will be completed by the date fixed, and usually the architect consults the builder, who expresses himself hopefully.

The client makes his preparations for moving and then finds out that owing to the difficulty of obtaining labour or the delivery of materials or fittings, something is undone at the last moment. A room or rooms may have to be painted, door fittings are not fixed, a kitchen stove cannot be delivered, and the move, always a troublesome interregnum, takes place in a period of abnormal chaos. For all these things an



PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSE, TYPE C.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.



PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSE, TYPE D.
DETAIL OF DOOR.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

architect is often blamed, and moreover, a move which takes place under such circumstances, frequently leaves traces on the building. Soft paint is damaged, stained floors are messed, and work that would be well and neatly done while the house is unoccupied, is frequently hurriedly completed and shows the trace of that hurry afterwards. The ladies who are most inconvenienced denounce architect and builder impartially, often forgetting that the architect only directs to the best of his ability, and that no builder has, in these days, an absolute control of labour. If we had a law as in Italy, that no house should be occupied until a year after its completion, we should be free from this trouble, but it indicates the wisdom of advising a client that he should allow an interval of at least three months between the date of completion and that of occupation.

Another of the architect's difficulties is that he frequently builds for clients who ought in no case to



PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSE, TYPE B.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

undertake such work. Such clients develop a detective instinct in looking out for defects. They will tell an architect that they have signed a contract which entitles them to materials and workmanship which are the best of their kind, and they absolutely refuse to accept this as being a general clause to secure a good result. If they can point out anything which is not quite as good as similar work they have seen somewhere else they will try to induce the architect to insist on the work being done over again, or else they expect him to arrange a deduction with the contractor. The client may in some cases be a man who does not use his possessions well or carefully himself, but this will not prevent his wanting to treat a contractor like a suspected criminal. Clients of this type of disposition are men who really should not build at all, and when the architect suspects that his client belongs to such a type he should, if possible, modify many clauses of a specification, knowing that he may have to insist on its being carried out to the letter or else have to deal with grievances of a most unreasonable nature. The old and time-honoured clause that floorboards which



PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSE, TYPE D.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

open more than 1/16th of an inch must be taken up on the architect's demand and relaid, is an unsafe clause to have in a specification in such a case. It is meant to give the architect power and control over bad work, but should not in these difficult times be considered as being absolutely binding in every case.

Joinery is not cabinet work, but the unreasonable client will often try to make out that it should have the absolute finish and perfection we expect in furniture. The man who should not build will condemn the plaster work of a house because after careful examination he can find a few hair cracks; the joinery is bad because a few small cases of shrinkage show themselves; distempering must be redone if there is the smallest variation in colour, and any dampness due to drying out is pointed out as evidence of bad building.

Another of the architect's difficulties is that met with in dealing with some smaller builder, who during the progress of the work proves to be financially unsound. Both employer and architect are really fortunate if such a man has to throw up the contract, for though cancellation often involves the payment of more money, the result is usually better.



PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSES, TYPE C.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

The small contractor who is carrying out a losing contract is seldom in a position to command either the best materials or labour. The builder's merchants supply him with what he wants unwillingly, or do not supply him at all. If the client, to meet the difficulty, pays direct, it greatly increases the architect's work and responsibility, and the difficulty of the supply of labour and plant for the work still remains.

We believe the great majority of such contractors are men who are trying to do their best under very difficult conditions, but that best is practically never satisfactory to client or to architect. We might state as an axiom that it is hardly safe to employ a contractor on any job unless he is in a position to lose money on it without affecting the soundness of his financial position. The architect has, in many cases, a remedy in his hands, which is that of only asking those contractors to tender on whom he knows he can rely, and of warning his client if he is asked to obtain tenders from those unknown to him personally. For though it is always possible to make enquiries, the results of those enquiries cannot in many cases be absolutely relied on.

Building is, in a word, a difficult and complicated operation, especially in these times. It should be undertaken only by those who have come to the

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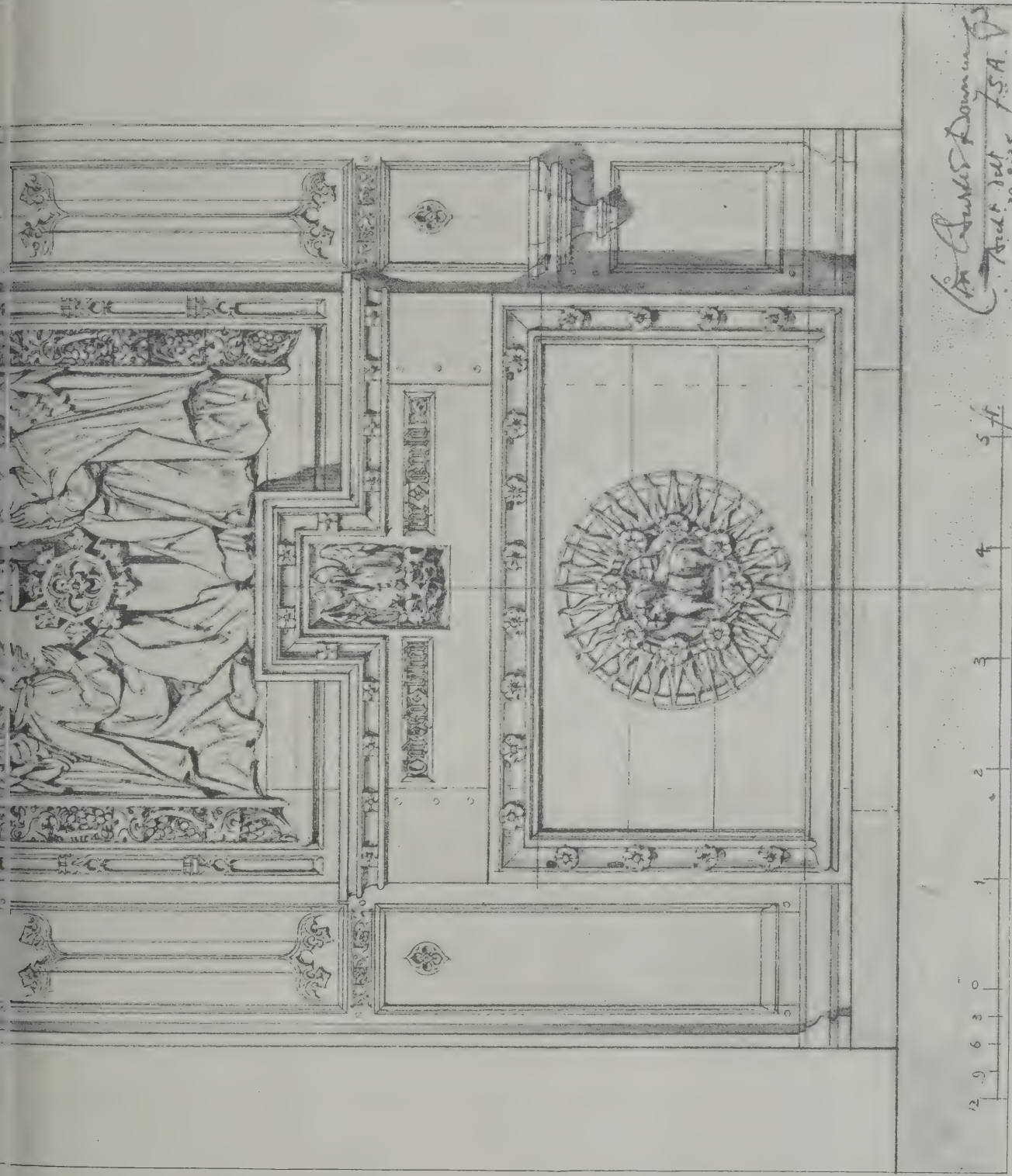
+ The Chapel of the Most Sacrament.

S. Augustin, Stockville.

Altar Piece.

Aug. 1925.





H. P. Burke Downing
Arch. Des. F.S.A.
20.8.25

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ALTAR PIECE, CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, ST. ANDREW'S, STOCKWELL.

H. P. BURKE DOWNING, F.S.A., ARCHITECT.

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CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S NEW PREMISES, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

MESSRS. JOSEPH, ARCHITECTS.

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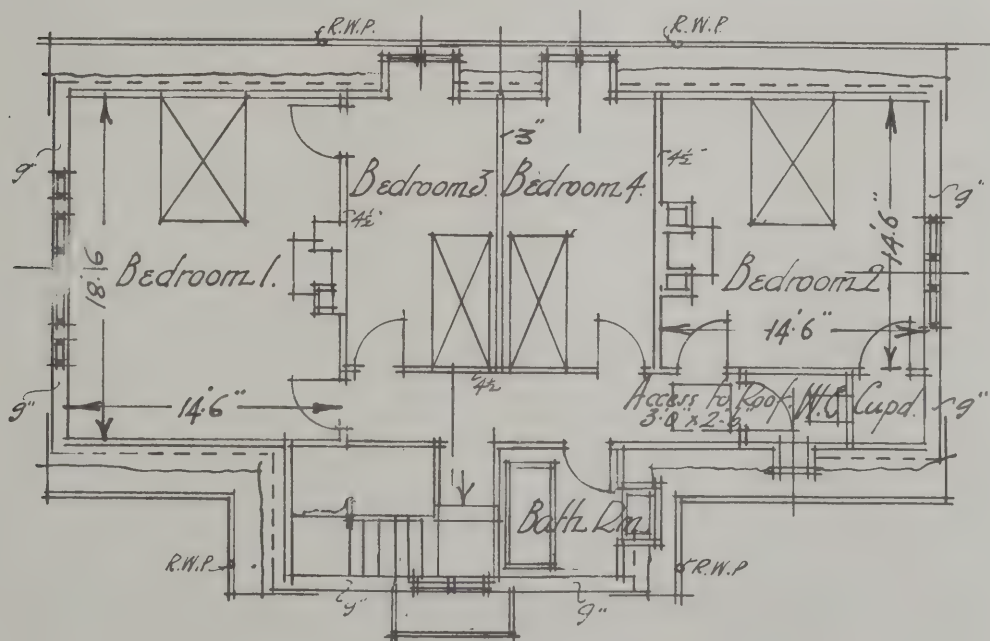
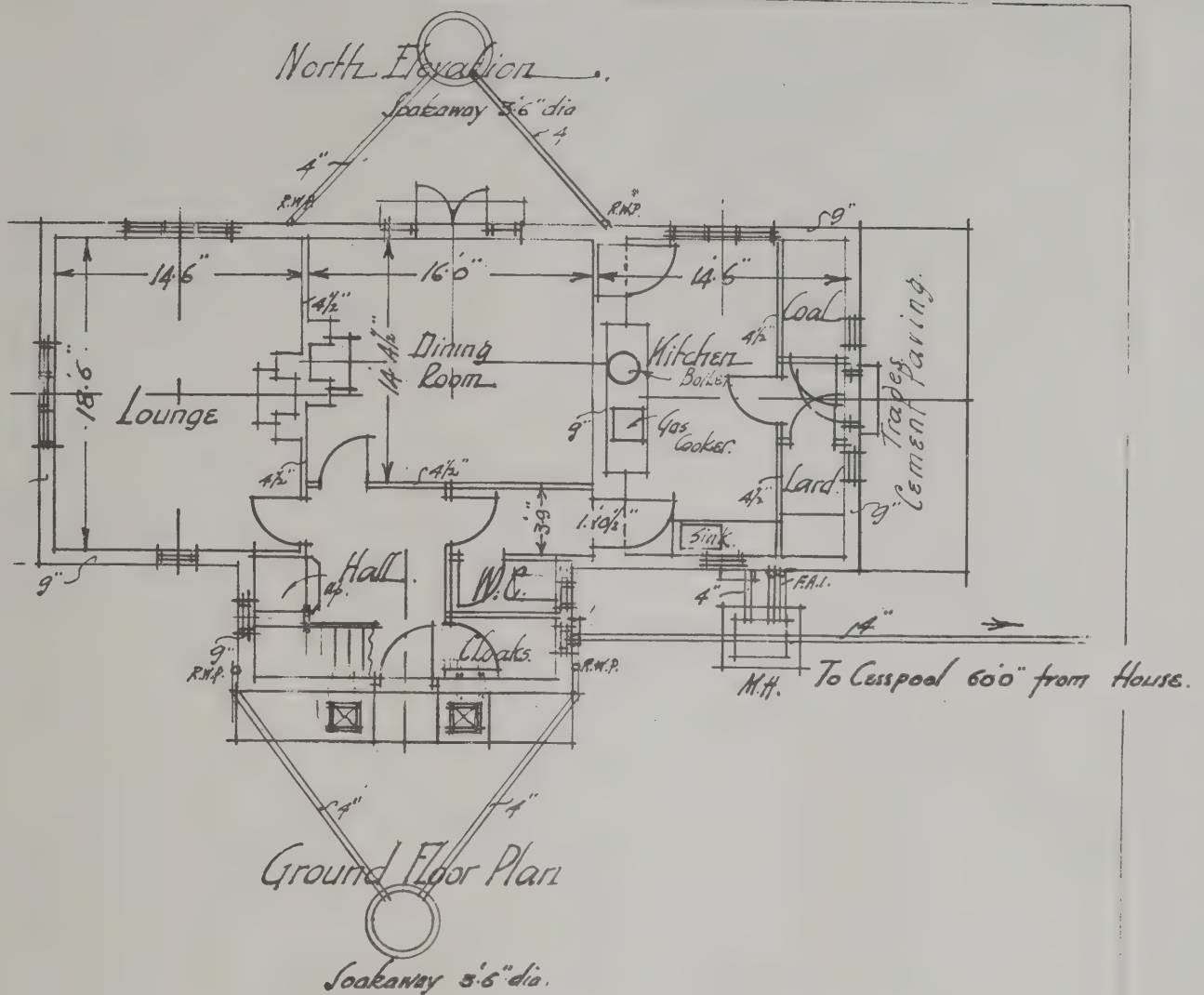


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HOUSE ON THE SPRINGHEAD ESTATE, HASLEMERE.

G. ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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PERCY LODGE ESTATE: HOUSE, TYPE C, AND DETAIL OF D TYPE HOUSE ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

conclusion that it is really necessary, and the best thing to do, and by those who are willing to look at the completed work as a whole, and to feel satisfaction that it has been reasonably well carried out. Those who insist on absolute perfection in every detail should

either not build at all or should clearly understand that they must pay fancy prices for what they want, well above the ordinary market prices of the day. And even so they may often prove thorns in the flesh of the architects they have employed.

Our Illustrations.

ALTAR PIECE, CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, ST. ANDREWS, STOCKWELL. H. P. BURKE DOWNING, F.S.A., Architect.

NEW PREMISES, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1. MESSRS. ERNEST M. JOSEPH, Architects.

HOUSE ON THE SPRINGHEAD ESTATE, HASLEMERE. G. ALAN FORTESCUE, Architect.

House on the Springhead Estate near Haslemere by G. Alan Fortescue, A.R.I.B.A. The plans explain the accommodation. The general and decorative character has

been designed with a due regard for the charming surroundings with which they harmonise. Mr. Neville A. Lion is responsible for the pleasing perspective sketch illustrated.

Notes and Comments.

"The Old English House."

Under this title Mr. Alfred Gotch has written, and Messrs. Methuen have published at the price of 16s. net, a book in which the author describes the progressive changes and types of the English house from the earliest times. Mr. Gotch has won a name for himself in architectural literature and in this work shows his usual accuracy and insight. The subject is, if a well-worn one, fascinating, and though it hardly covers any new ground, it traverses a familiar field in a most pleasant manner. We are year by year learning more of the past, and there are few districts left where old houses and other buildings have not been industriously measured and sketched. We have often thought there might well be a law to make it obligatory before pulling any building of antiquity down to have it adequately measured and photographed, and such records might be filed in the local archives for inspection. Such regulations would neither involve great expense nor be burdensome to the community, but would provide in time a mass of information of value.

Houses on the Percy Lodge Estate.

We give a series of photographic views of houses on the above estate which have been erected from the designs of Mr. Robert Atkinson, F.R.I.B.A., and are very pleasant by reason of their good proportions and simplicity of form as well as refined detail. The designer knows not only what to put into work but what to omit, which is by no means of lesser importance. Elevations and plans were illustrated in our Bungalows and Small Country Houses book, recently published at 2s. 6d. net.

The Consequences of a Small Dispute.

A contract for the doors and window sashes for 39 houses for the Bridgwater Town Council has been given to a foreign firm owing to the action of a trade union.

The latter objected to the employment of two non-union men by the local contractor to whom the contract was to be given, and as the two non-unionists refused to join the union, the firm of contractors were forced to abandon the contract. This, at a time when the local authorities are called upon to provide large funds for the relief of unemployment, is very regrettable. We can quite understand a union objecting to the employment of men who are insufficiently trained in the interests of their members, but it seems an act of tyranny to call out men simply because a few of their number are not inclined to pay for the benefits of the union. We believe it would be to their ultimate advantage if they ceased to employ such "methods of persuasion," which must sooner or later bring about the union of those who are not members of the trade unions in a body to protect their own interests and the cause of free contract.

American Echoes.

According to an article in the Journal of the American Institute of Architects, some of our cousins are getting alarmed at movements which threaten to displace them, especially in the field of small house building. It is stated that in New York, Toronto, New Orleans, Seattle, and elsewhere, there are private plan agencies, uncontrolled by any accredited body of architects, the financial returns from the advertising patronage of which are great. The writer

of the article has knowledge of a set of plans sold for \$150 for the erection of a house in New Jersey to cost \$50,000. From another town in the same State comes a request to one of the New York plan agencies to stock two-family house plans and plans for apartment houses. In Newark, N.J., a tract of 38 acres has been leased to a very well-known firm for the erection of a plant to cost \$1,250,000, which is to be devoted to the manufacture of "ready-cut" houses to serve the 18 States nearest the northern seaboard. The remedy is, the writer states, constructive work carried out by architects in combination. We believe there is another and better remedy,



TYPICAL ALSATIAN ARCHITECTURE.

which is the abandonment by a number of architects of their purely advisory functions and the institution of direct combinations of architects and contractors, backed by the requisite finance, to build for the large proportion of the public who prefer buying houses to having them erected to architects' designs, but we fail to see that any advisory combination of architects could adequately cope with the situation which is described.

Waterloo Bridge.

Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., has been called in by the London County Council to report on the methods by which Waterloo Bridge might be better adapted for carrying additional traffic, and he has, it is understood, at the Council's request prepared a design showing the manner in which between the existing parapets of the bridge four lines of vehicular traffic could be arranged. Mr. Meinertzhagen, the chairman of the Improvements Committee, has stated that the division of opinion, both on the County Council and in Committee, was very marked, and that what the Council had to do was to combine, if possible, the views of architects with the needs of London traffic. He is also of opinion that traffic conditions will inevitably lead to a great Charing Cross scheme, and that nothing must be done to create new interests or to put obstacles in the way of such a scheme.

It is stated that the members of the Improvements Committee have been impressed by Sir Edwin Lutyens' treat-

ment of the subject, but are disposed to regard his proposals as limited by the architectural aspects of the question. Meanwhile the report is to be kept secret for another fortnight, and pending its production nothing definite can be said. It is not clear whether the Council have decided that the demolition of the bridge is structurally necessary or whether they now incline to think it can be saved, and on this main decision seems to us to depend the extent and scope of the new scheme. It is equally clear that very few alterations could be made in any scheme of reconstruction which would not give us what in effect would be a new design, however much of the old structure was incorporated in it.

The Carpenters' Company and the Trades Training School.

The Right Hon. Sir Douglas Hogg, M.P., K.C., gave away the prizes gained by students of the Trades Training School at Carpenters' Hall on Friday evening, October 16. The progress and success of the schools, the average attendance at which is now over 90 students every evening, is a most encouraging feature of the time. The Carpenters' Company, with the allied craft companies, are carrying out a most useful and important work which supplements the education of those who are apprenticed to the various building crafts. Sir Banister Fletcher gave his address as Director of the Schools, after which Sir Douglas Hogg delivered an excellent and stirring speech, in which he drew attention to the gratifying fact that so many of those engaged in hard work all day had the enthusiasm and industry to do several hours' work to perfect themselves in their callings in their evening time. He recalled the manner in which the trades unions were at one time suspicious that under like conditions the polytechnics might flood the unions with half-trained men, but after full investigation on the spot they came to the conclusion that this was not the effect of the instruction given, which was of a nature to help and not to retard the efforts of the unions, and since that time the classes have had their heartiest support. It is somewhat to be regretted that the Plumbers' Company, who have an individual educational policy, have not yet associated themselves with a movement which with their adhesion would include all the companies representing the building crafts, but it is to be hoped that they will finally add their quota to that of the other companies in helping a movement which is of the greatest importance and which expresses in a modern manner the original aims which led to the formation of the City companies and like institutions elsewhere.

Change of Address.

Mr. W. A. Aickman, F.R.I.B.A., has notified us that in consequence of the impending demolition of 39 Bloomsbury Square to make room for the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society's new offices, his practice will be carried on from offices in 58 Gordon Square, W.C.1.

BRADFORD.—The Education Committee are purchasing land adjoining Bolling Hall estate at a cost of £3,300 for playing fields for the proposed new secondary school.—Twenty acres of the Clock House estate are to be leased by the Corporation to the Trustees for the erection of a new grammar school.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £20,000 for the White Abbey improvement scheme.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a scheme to cost £83,200 for the erection of 180 houses by direct labour at the Thornton Estate.—The City Architect has prepared the layout of the sixth section of the Ecclestone housing site and the City Engineer is to arrange for the provision of an outfall sewer in connection with the estate.—Application is to be made for sanction to borrow £200,000 for waterworks purposes.—Plans passed: 20 bungalows, Buttermere Road, for Mr. E. A. Gadie; 4 houses, Frimley Street, for Messrs. Priestley & Briggs; 4 houses, Jer Lane, for Mr. E. Hillam; 4 houses and one bungalow, Frimley Street, for Mr. Smith Priestley; 12 houses, Pendragon Lane, for Mr. A. Dickinson; 26 houses, Norman Avenue, for Mr. J. H. Smith; 8 houses, Hastings Avenue, for Messrs. E. Balmforth & Sons, builders; 8 houses, Lodore Road, for Mr. R. R. North.

The Follies of 1950.

Compiled for the National Association of Substituters, Great Bluffs, Masconama.

The annual report of the Committee on Imitations for 1950, which lies on the desk before me, contains an interesting piece of news. So efficiently has the National Association performed its functions since 1932 that to-day less than 7 per cent. of existing buildings incorporate any natural products in their original forms. What this means can be readily grasped when it is recalled that only twenty-five years ago building stones were still used just as they came from the quarries, for the facing of city buildings; that wood, often used for floors and trim, actually showed the grain in the trees from which it was cut; and that sand, gravel, cinders, and water were often employed in the preparation of concrete just as they came from the ground and without the slightest attempt at scientific treatment in the factory.



DOOR IN GREAT ORMOND STREET, W.C.

bronze. Mahogany doors of steel; mahogany doors of birch; birch of pressed wood-fibre. 'Parge' work. 'Fresco' painting. Felt fire-axes. . . ."

It appears from Mr. Churchill's article that in those days such substitutions were frowned upon, possibly because of the imperfection of the processes of imitation, possibly because of the tendency of the public to make comparisons with the real. To-day, when the real no longer exists in the building trades, imitation in itself is perfection, and comparisons cannot be made. It would be as ridiculous for a man to-day to think of comparing his Fiberite, pressed mahoganoid, semi-vitreous, age-proof, self-opening front door, with a piece of mahogany, as to compare a can of *paté de foie gras* expansion entrée tablets with a piece of calf's liver.

During the past year, 1949-1950, several new additions were made to the thousands of Class A Substitutes sponsored by the National Association. The object of the present report is briefly to enumerate and describe these, with a short comment on each.

Cheese-Crete Air-Proof Mottled Tilettes. A super-standard imitation made by the Brie-Rind Condensing Co. Tilette wall construction avoids necessity for damp-proofing, stuccoing, plastering, or perfuming. Saves four minor operations and one major, usually fatal.

Interlocking Fibrous Garbage-blocks (Creosoted). Utilization of a former waste product. Chicken and meat-bone aggregate, gelatinous binder, tin-can reinforcing. Delivered to job with sanitary wrapping; hardens on exposure to air. Sets in 24 hours. Indigestible.

Jellibriques and Jellislate. For inserts in walls and roofing where light is needed but aesthetic treatment precludes windows. A transparent product made of cellulose, liquified mica and jellied consommé.



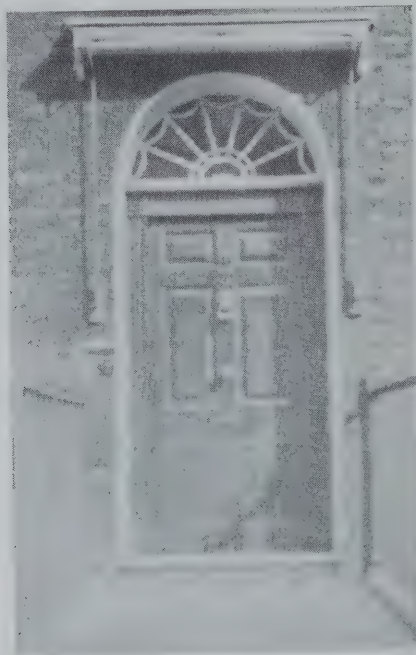
DOOR IN DEAN STREET, SOHO, W.C.

Bookpulp (Carneglibrary By-Product Co.). A plastic material made of literary *débris* from public libraries; pulverized, soaked in solution of synthetic water, and coloured. Cost varies according to author.

Newspaperpulp. Made similarly to above but more expensive since daily papers were superseded in 1937 by visa-radio journals. Made mostly of financial reports, ticker-tape, insurance advertisements, and "Wall Street Herald." Not durable; liable to drop off; but satisfactory for speculative houses and suburban developments.

However, it is apparent that even as early as 1925, great strides forward had been made in the use of imitations and substitutes. In the archives of the Association is a copy of "The Arts" for September, 1924, in which is an article by Henry S. Churchill, called "The Plaster Builders." The author points out, rather satirically, it seems, that a great deal of imitation and substitution was in vogue even at that remote time. It might be amusing to quote from his article simply to show by comparison what enormous strides have been made in the development of scientific imitation since Mr. Churchill's day. It must be remembered, though, that in 1925 imitation was rather for the purpose of copying natural forms than as an art in itself, practiced for the express purpose of concealing the existence of these forms. Mr. Churchill says: "Even a partial list of the makeshifts employed in the Building Game reads like the specifications for a Moving Picture Heaven. Cast imitation stone; stone put on with a trowel; stone made of wood-fibre. Gothic stone-vaults stuccoed on wire lath, hung from steel trusses, the joints painted. Gothic tracery of re-inforced cast cement. Slate and tile roofs made of asbestos or metal. Imitation marble wainscots and columns made of plaster of 'composition.' The bath-rooms of 'tile-board.' Oriental rugs made of rubber; a rug you love to mop. Door-knockers next to electric bells. Imitation flowers in the window and glass fruit on the table. Fireplaces without flues: (that cosy look comes from an electric-coal fire). Kalamein

Brussels Carpetflote. A floor-filler and softener. Sprayed on finished cheese-crete floors with special "Little Giant Air-brush"; makes a soft, fleecy, resilient floor, about one-half inch thick, any colour desired.



DOOR IN DOUGHTY STREET, LONDON, W.C

Tapestry Stipple. A fresco paint made of the white of Fatu-Liva's eggs, for painting imitation tapestries. Four grades: Beauvais, Gobelins, Flanders, and Bronx.

Pinkham's Slipsicoat Plasteroil (Decomposed aura and essence of castor-beans). A preparation for concealing wood or stonework in old houses. May be applied directly to any natural product from marble to mahogany, to imitate the imitations now on the market.

Charco-slate, in two forms. One, a charcoal-creosote product made to imitate slate, and produced in variegated colour-blends. The other, a mastic, adhesive granulated product for spraying over old slate roofs to hide the natural material. May also be used on old tile-work to imitate the modern Slatile Roofing.

The above products stand out as the principal new materials placed on the market during the year 1949-50, through the work of the National Association of Substituters. The Committee on Imitations has been recently conducting experiments with a substitute for structural steel, but as this is confidential nothing will be said about it at the present time.

One paragraph in the Committee's report, however, should be noted in closing. It seems that a great deal of opposition has been encountered by the Association, from the architectural profession. This is particularly true among the older members, some of whom have been in practice since 1920 or even earlier. These reactionaries and realists would eliminate the use of imitations entirely, arguing that Truth at all costs is the prerequisite of Beauty, or some such rot. It is only necessary to point out to them the work of a few of their own beloved Italian Renaissance masters to show the fallacy of this; and furthermore, to recall to them that even among the Greeks the triglyph and guttae forms were developed in imitation of wood construction. But still they are not satisfied, and they greatly hamper us in our work, sometimes even refusing to specify our products merely on the ground that they are imitations! However, the big real estate operators are with us, and the speculative builders are with us, and most of the small home owners are coming around to the use of our products, so the architects are bound to follow suit sooner or later.

It has been calculated that in ten years the use of stone or wood in buildings will be entirely obsolete, and that these materials will be used in the future entirely for the

creation of cliffs, forests, and natural scenery. If our opponents in the architectural profession wish to gratify their whims for Truth, let them aid in the design of natural scenery and in the re-building of our landscapes; in the design of trees and flowers and rocks and earth and water; and then they may call upon us to furnish the materials for the execution of their designs. The National Association is prepared to imitate nature itself on a scale greater and grander than ever, and in a way that will entirely eliminate the shortcomings and imperfections of the present products thereof.

Scenic Vistas. Finest Italian, Spanish, Riviera, and Southern California landscapes, on Prospectoscope slides, for throwing on whitewashed walls of city flats. Better than natural scenery; made up from illustrations in 1927 Tourist Agency Catalogues.

Black Searchlights. For de-luminating competitor's advertising signs. Recommended also for concealing certain architectural details on buildings being photographed for publication. May be used to "kill" adjacent buildings in imitation of architectural renderings.

Psychological Conference-Room Machinery. Complete equipment may be installed behind imitation book-backs, to give sound of two or more typewriters, intermittent telephone bell-ringing, scraping of drafting-stools, and testing of materials with hammer. Extra audiphone attachment to give effect of voices, with special records imitating swearing of specification-writer or sub-contractors. Excellent for use during first conference with prospective client.

Quarter-scale Fixture-stamps. Also ornament and detail stamps (The Vitru-Vignola Repeating Co.) Excellent time-saver for plan-factories. Description unnecessary. Send for catalogue, showing also cuts of capitals, friezes, vases, lions, and wrought-iron stamps.

Structural Wall-roll (Superserspective Paper Co.). Beamed or coffered ceilings to fit any room; panelled wainscots; bookcases full of complete editions of the classics. Also, the same with printed imitation of Plaster-oil covering or book-pulp trim.

Tuxedo Drafting-Smocks (Reversible). For commuters desiring to attend social functions without turning private office into boudoir. Computed by efficiency engineers to add 17.348 per cent. to production-rate of drafting-room personnel.

New Books:—

"How to Do Art," Horatio de Vere Pliny, \$1.98.

"The Ethics of Plagiarism" (Reprint), \$0.90.

"Georgian Architecture in California" (Hollywood edition), \$5.

"Gothic Steel" (Pugin and Bessemer), \$4.50.

"Building Code, 1950" (Twelve volumes), \$1,200.00.

GERALD LYNTON KAUFMAN.

From the Journal of the American Institute of Architects.

MALTBY.—The Education Committee have decided to provide a secondary school to accommodate 350 pupils at Maltby.

ISLINGTON.—The Baths Committee recommend the installation of filtration plant at Hornsey Road baths at a cost of £5,750.

PENZANCE.—A children's ward is to be added to the West Cornwall Infirmary.—Coast Lines, Ltd. have a proposal for the erection of a shed on the north arm of the floating dock.—A shelter is to be erected over the cattle pens at the market and tenders for the work are to be invited.

PORTSMOUTH.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Idsworth Road, for Mr. C. C. Coles, builder, 86A Queens Road; hall and club, Stubbington Avenue, for Portsmouth Tramway Club; store, 18 Fratton Road, for Messrs. John Lay, Ltd., builders, 207 Arundel Street; extensions, Lake Road, for United Services Masonic Club; extensions, 86 Rudmore Road, for Portsmouth Steel Co., Ltd.; 6 houses, Idsworth Road, for Mr. J. F. Naish, builder; new road and 46 houses off Whitwell Road, for Mr. F. J. Privett, builder, Cottage Grove; reconstruction 202 Fratton Road, for Mr. T. Stride, builder, 202 Fratton Road; 4 houses, Lynton Grove, for Mr. H. E. Pitt; 23 garages, Somerset Road, for Mr. W. A. Bell; 12 houses, Langstone Road, for Messrs. Fox-Smith; 6 houses, Stubbington Avenue, for Mr. W. Thorp; new roads off Havant Road, Cosham, for Mr. D. Gammans; 6 houses, Kirby Road, for Mr. J. J. Canterbury, builders, 141 Stubbington Avenue.

The Abbey on the Dart.

By E. Leslie Gunston, A.R.I.B.A.



VIEW OF ABBEY PORCH.

Down in the west country in the beautiful county of Devon, amid the bright red earth of the ploughed fields and the luxuriant vegetation of the countryside, nestling right up against the great land of Dartmoor is the little village of Buckfastleigh, on the river Dart.

In this village one of the largest churches of modern times is being built on the foundations of an Abbey of extreme antiquity. The story of how the old Abbey was built, and how it was destroyed, and how after many centuries the new building has arisen—the handiwork of a few monks—is a fascinating one. Let us start at the beginning and see how it came about.

The early name of this village was Bulfestre, a Celtic word meaning "Head of the Pool." Its great age is proved by the fact that it was never assessed, or in the words of the Domesday Book, "Bulfestre is the head of the abbacy. It never paid geld." It is thought that with Bodmin and Glastonbury, the monastic church of Buckfast had property in Devon before King Edgar's time, and was probably, with the exception of Exeter, the only monastery before that time existing in the county.

The actual date of the foundation is not definitely known but from the testimony of Domesday Book, it is historically certain that this Abbey was founded before King Alfred's time, 871.



VIEW OF THE BUILDING OPERATIONS.

The Saxon and Danish invasions made havoc on the religious houses and Buckfast Abbey suffered with the others; but when Domesday Book was compiled the Abbey was in a flourishing state, as we learn that it owned large tracts of land and employed many men and their families who maintained for the Abbey, 88 oxen, 80 goats, 29 pigs, and 67 sheep. This last item gives us an indication of what was later the principal source of wealth of the Abbey, namely, the wool trade and manufacture.

Then came the Norman Conquest, and for some years after peaceful times were enjoyed by the Christian communities of England; but the Conqueror's son Rufus was not so kind to the monasteries, and many of the lands were taken from the Abbeys in England, among them being those belonging to Buckfast. These lands were bestowed upon the friends of the king. From this time and for nearly fifty years nothing is found to tell of the fortunes of the Abbey which, though not suppressed or destroyed, was doubtless during this time subject to thorough spoliation.

The end of the eleventh century is famed throughout history as witnessing a great wave of religious enthusiasm over Europe. The firstfruits of this fervour are to be seen in the First Crusade 1096-1099. Many new religious orders sprung up, and a spirit of reaction was noticeable against



GENERAL VIEW OF THE ABBEY.

the laxity of the Church and also the cloister. Several groups of monks came across from Europe to England and settled here, while a few leaders undertook to guide this new revival in religious matters. One of these leaders was Vitalis of Mortain, who founded the Abbey and Congregation of Savigny in France, and, after the community, which had at first consisted of 140 monks, had grown, many crossed the Channel. Had these men not come over here it is doubtful whether any revival of religious life at Buckfast would have been possible, and we should have been the poorer to-day by a splendid Abbey.

In 1134, Stephen, the Count of Mortain, and afterwards King of England, who owned some of the lands originally belonging to the Abbey, decided to hand over the Abbey of Buckfast to the Abbot of Savigny. Soon after these events the Savigny Congregation became affiliated to the Cistercian Order, and consequently the Savinian Abbeys in England (with the exception of Furness) became joined with the Order of Citeaux, and the Buckfast monks had to introduce some alterations in their mode of living, the chief being the abandonment of the apostolic ministry and of preaching.

When Henry II came to the English throne he confirmed the monks' dominion over the churches and the lands held

by them, and the same confirmation to these rights was given by Richard I on his accession in 1189. About this time it was imperative, owing to the great increase in the number of monks, to enlarge the Abbey buildings of that day and to build new ones.

The church was enlarged towards the east and the interior recast in the style prevailing at the time,—the noble architecture which we now call Norman. Cottages were built opposite the Abbey to house some of the monks, and to provide them with workshops, as many of them were carpenters, builders, or blacksmiths. Part of these old buildings can be seen to this day.

The Buckfast monks did not live in such seclusion as



VIEW SHOWING SOME ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS.

might be imagined, as they took an active part in the secular affairs of their time, as can be seen from the fact that one of the abbots about this period was made a member of the Merchants' Guild of Totnes. In fact, the prosperity which the little village of Buckfastleigh enjoyed was entirely due to the monks of the Abbey as the Cistercians were the great wool traders of that day.

It seemed that now the time had come when the Abbey had reached a period of repose from the varying fortunes of the preceding centuries, but this was not to be. In 1539 the Royal Commissioners proceeded to the suppression of the religious houses of Devon, an order emanating from Henry VIII. In February Buckfast was reached, and the work of Dissolution began. Only ten monks remained in the Abbey at that time, and the building was dismantled, the lead was stripped from the roofs, and the five bells were bought for £33 15s. for the parish church by the men of Buckfastleigh. The walls of the Abbey were allowed to stand and they remained thus to the end of the 18th century.

In 1806 the site was cleared and a modern mansion, still standing, was erected over the west side of the cloisters, and a vault, which is of very early work, dating from pre-Norman times, and which is now used as the Chapter House. Most of the stones of the old Abbey were used for building in the neighbourhood, and of the Abbey buildings proper only the Abbot's Tower now exists to show us what manner of work the old monks did. After passing through various hands, the Abbey site was bought by Dr. James, of Plymouth, who was the last lay owner.

We come now to the story of how the great modern Abbey has re-arisen Phoenix like from the ashes of the building of the Middle Ages.

It was during the middle of the nineteenth century that a small group of Benedictine monks settled in a little place called La Pierre-qui-Vire, but in 1880, owing to an unsympathetic Government, they were obliged to leave France and to seek refuge in Ireland. After two years there they heard that the land at Buckfast was for sale. The monks decided to come after careful thought, and in 1882 they settled down at Buckfast and took possession of the empty mansion, purchased blankets from the mill close by, and lived as best they could. The first Mass was said on October 28, 1882, three hundred and forty-three years

since the last Mass had been said in the great Abbey which was now no more.

As the number of monks grew as time went on, it was necessary that a church should be built at all costs and this resulted in 1884 in a small church, which was later used as the community refectory. At this time a committee was set up to deal with the question of rebuilding and Mr. Fred Walters was appointed architect and he has designed and superintended the whole work of rebuilding since this beginning. As a start the Abbot's Tower was restored and a south wing, cloister and a number of cells for the monks were built. The present beautiful refectory was erected as part of this work.

It was only in 1902 that it was finally decided to raise the Benedictine house to its former dignity as an independent abbey, and in 1903 the first Abbot of the restored Abbey gave his solemn blessing. This good man was the victim of a wreck at sea in 1906 and it was left to his successor, the present Abbot, to unfold to his brethren a scheme he had fostered for a long time, and which had been especially dear to the late Abbot—nothing less than the rebuilding of the abbey. They had no money in hand but promises amounted to £70 a year until the work was completed. Brother Peter, a mason, knew how to build, and he could teach others. They could find sand in the Dart and a kindly neighbour laid his sandpit at their disposal, and there was a quarry close by where they could get plenty of stone very cheaply. They decided to start work under these conditions and on November 15, 1906, the first cartload of stone was brought through the Abbey gates.

The work went on slowly but persistently, and at no time have there been more than six monks at work. There was not much to show at first for their labours, and they were ridiculed by some, but the work went on and the great white Abbey that was being erected by the Dart soon created much interest, which in time has become world wide. In 1922 the church was two-thirds finished and opened. No public appeal has ever been made, yet voluntary contributions have always been coming in.

The Abbey that has thus sprung up has been built on the old foundations of the mediæval building, and as far as can be ascertained, the plan and character of the twelfth-century church has been maintained, with the possible exception of the tower, which, by special request, will, when complete, follow the Benedictine traditions rather than the lower



ANOTHER VIEW OF THE ABBEY.

towers associated with buildings belonging to the Cistercian Order.

The church is cruciform in plan, and has a comparatively short eastern arm, following the Cistercian custom, comprising all the sanctuary of three bays. The crossing is 25 feet square, and above this is a lofty lantern and gallery 51 feet from the floor, and above rises the central tower which is not as yet carried up to its full height. The peal of 14 bells is rung from the above-mentioned gallery. The nave consists of nine bays, three of which form the monks' choir, which will be separated from the nave proper by a rood screen. The north and south aisles are carried round the sanctuary, forming an ambulatory behind the high altar, and behind this is a kind of eastern transept of six chapels. There are two more chapels, one opening from the north transept, and one from the south, and are dedicated to Our Lady and to the Holy Cross respectively. The former contains the restored statue of Our Lady of Buckfast. The original statue was 3 feet 8 inches high, and was destroyed during the reign of Edward VI, but during the excavations in 1884, a large fragment was discovered with the colour and gilding in perfect condition. From this the whole statue was restored, the old portion being incorporated with the new. The Abbot's throne in the sanctuary is built entirely of late fifteenth-century oak most beautifully carved. This oak came from a manor house near by, which belonged to the Abbey in former times, and which was built by one of the Abbots before the Dissolution.

Internally, the whole of the stonework is built of Bath stone but the filling in of the vaulting is of red sandstone from quarries close by. The walls externally are of random coursed dark grey local limestone, with turrets, windows, and other dressings of Ham Hill stone.

The windows are glazed with lead glazing of early design, and the whole building when complete (in seven years' time from now it is hoped) will consist of a nave of nine bays with aisles, transepts with eastern chapels, and choir, with an eastern square-ended projection of six chapels, the whole surmounted by a square central tower and spire. The internal dimensions will be: length, 240 feet, width 62 feet, length of transept 85 feet, and height to crown of vault 49 feet.

While it is one of the most important ecclesiastical buildings of the present day, it is quite unique as the only ancient English Abbey to be rebuilt. That its restoration should be brought about by a few zealous monks building their own Abbey in the green valley of the Dart, under great difficulties, is most inspiring, and a proof that the mediæval religious spirit in building, unhampered by the vexatious labour troubles of the present day is still very much active in this corner of Devon at least. In a few years' time there will be a great church completed, which will stand as a monument for all time to the labour of love of the monks of Buckfast.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

OCTOBER 23, 1875.

NEW BATHS IN SOUTHWARK.

About a year back the erection of a building, which was to be known as "The Imperial Theatre," was commenced in Newington Causeway. The site comprised an area of more than 5,000 square feet, and according to the promoters the theatre would be the largest in the metropolis. Some progress was made with the works; the basement was excavated to a considerable depth, and was intended to have been converted into a spacious restaurant in connection with the theatre. The main walls of the buildings were carried to a height of about 40 feet, but then the works were suddenly brought to a stand, and for more than six months past they have remained in their unfinished state. The property was then advertised to be let. We understand that within the last week or two it has been taken by a body of capitalists, who intend at once to complete the building, but instead of a theatre it will be as baths for the district of Newington and Southwark. A large swimming-bath will be constructed in the basement, and a number of warm baths will also be constructed within other portions of the site. The swimming-bath is to be so formed that during the winter season the water can be run off, and the area adapted for public meetings, lectures, or other similar purposes.

Competition Result.

The Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Hospital Competition.

The result of the above Competition is announced as follows:—

1st, Messrs. Elcock & Sutcliffe, of Avenue House, 21 Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.

2nd, Mr. W. Sydney Trent of 6 Broad Street Place, London, E.C.

3rd, Messrs. Cleland & Hayward, of 5 Exchange Street, Wolverhampton.

It will be remembered that the Competition was for Outpatient and Casualty Department to the above hospital.

ASSESSOR'S AWARD.

GENTLEMEN,—I have made a careful examination of the fifty sets of designs submitted in the Competition for the proposed Out-patient and Casualty Department of the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Hospital. I beg to report that in my opinion the design No. 23 best meets the requirements and that the author should be appointed Architect.

I further consider that the designs Nos. 10 and 32 should receive the second and third premiums respectively.

There are several other very excellent designs, notably Nos. 43, 12, 3, 13, 8, 30 and 1.

I beg to congratulate the Board upon the very many excellent designs received and am of opinion that almost every competitor has presented a solution to a very difficult problem.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) THOMAS R. MILBURN.

Competition News.

CHADDERTON BATHS AND WASH-HOUSES.

The Council have instructed to arrange for advertisements to be issued inviting the submission of designs (in open competition) for the new baths and wash-houses proposed to be erected at Whitegate, and that premiums of £50, £25, and £10 be awarded to the authors of the designs placed first, second and third respectively in order of merit, and that the President of the R.I.B.A. be asked to nominate a suitable gentleman for appointment as assessor to consider and report upon the designs submitted and that the clerk be instructed to proceed with the preparation of the necessary instructions to be issued to architects desiring to submit designs.

MANCHESTER.—A sum of £5,000 is to be allocated in connection with competitive designs for the town hall extension.

A.A. Pantomime.

The Architectural Association will again organise and produce a pantomime. December 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th have been selected, with a matinee on the 17th at 2.30. The galleries of the Royal Institute of British Architects, 9 Conduit Street, W.1, have been lent for the occasion and all the profits will be in aid of the Architects' Benevolent Fund. Applications for tickets, 3s., 5s. 9d., and 8s. 6d., including tax, should be made by letter, or personally, to Miss M. Hodgson, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1, or by telephone: Museum 4957. The pantomime should be seen by all who take an active interest in architecture. The actors give of their very best and the talent shown is frequently of a very high quality. Architecture may appear to some to be rather dull and uninspiring. A visit to the pantomime will prove that whatever architecture may be our young men possess plenty of imagination and humour, two attributes which assist most to carve out a successful career.

MIDDLETON.—The Health Committee of the West Riding C.C. have now prepared a scheme to cost £25,828 for the provision of a nurses' hostel, superintendent's house, and eight cottages for the staff at the Middleton-in-Wharfedale Sanatorium. Additional bath and lavatory accommodation is to be provided at some of the blocks of the institution at a cost of £2,723.

Correspondence.

Registration.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

DEAR SIR,—The attention of the R.I.B.A. Registration Committee has been called to the recent establishment of an Association of Architects and Surveyors which is inviting architects to apply for membership as a protection against the "danger of being prevented from earning their livelihood" as a result of impending legislation.

So far as the R.I.B.A. is concerned the suggested danger does not exist. It has never been the intention of the Registration Committee to propose legislation which will in any way affect the livelihood of anyone who at the time of the passing of the Act is making his living by the practice of architecture. The interests of all those who are now connected with the profession will be specifically safeguarded. It has never been our intention to limit the benefits of a Registration Act to those who are now members of the R.I.B.A. or its Allied Societies, and the Bill which has just been drafted by the Registration Committee is perfectly clear on this point.—Faithfully yours,

HARRY BARNES,

Chairman of the R.I.B.A.

Registration Committee.

9 Conduit Street,
Hanover Square,
London, W.1.

The Architects' Building Prices.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

SIR,—I have been a regular subscriber to THE ARCHITECT for many years, and find your list of "Current London Prices" very helpful in estimating, charging, etc.

Could you extend them to "Labour only," as there are good men to-day who would like to take piecework, etc., on different small jobs.

I should like to know the opinion of some of my fellow builders.—I am, etc.,

Swaffham, Norfolk.

GEORGE JEFFRIES.

Hollow Floors and Roofs—London Building Acts (Amendment) Act, 1905, First Schedule.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

SIR,—I have to inform you that the Council on June 23, 1925, passed the following resolution:

That the Council, in pursuance of the powers vested in it by the First Schedule (Part III) to the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act, 1905, do approve as fire resisting, in the case of hollow floors, and hollow roofs, asbestos, burnt clay, cement mortar, or cement, concrete and steel, subject to the following conditions: (i) that all materials shall be to the satisfaction of the district surveyor, and the whole of the work shall be executed to his satisfaction; (ii) that if any blocks are of clay they shall be thoroughly burnt, free from lime and cracks and other defects; (iii) that all concrete which is less than 2 in. thick at any part, and all concrete for hollow bricks floors, shall be fine concrete, mixed in the proportion of at least one volume of Portland cement to three volumes of aggregate, composed of clean, silicious sand and broken flint of all such sizes as will pass through a mesh three-eighths of an inch square measured in the clear; (iv) that when such aggregate is not "fully graded," i.e., when such aggregate is not so varied in size that all voids can be filled with the cement paste, then the proportions shall be not less than one volume of Portland cement to two volumes of aggregate; (v) that, in the case of hollow block floors, the ends of the blocks shall be solidly jointed with cement mortar in the proportions of one volume of Portland cement to two volumes of clean sharp sand; (vi) that the concrete above the void shall be mixed in the same proportions as in the solid portions of the floor; (vii) that apart from any requirements in respect of imposed loads and working stresses: (1) the least diameter of the main tensile reinforcement shall be not less than one-quarter of an inch; (2) the least diameter of shear

reinforcement (if any) shall be not less than three-sixteenths of an inch; and (3) both ends of all reinforcement shall be properly hooked to the satisfaction of the district surveyor; (viii) that when burnt clay tiles are not used as a part of the covering of the reinforcement, then the thickness of fine concrete (exclusive of any other material) covering the main tensile reinforcement shall be not less than three-quarters of an inch thick and not less than the diameter of such main tensile reinforcement; (ix) that when burnt clay tiles are used as a part of the covering of the reinforcement, then the thickness of fine concrete covering the main tensile reinforcement shall be not less than one-half of an inch, and not less than the diameter of such main tensile reinforcement, and the thickness of the tile shall be not less than one-half of an inch; (x) that the sides and undersides of steel beams and girders shall be protected from the action of fire by fine concrete at least two inches thick, rodded and rammed, or 1½ inches thick trowelled round suitable mesh reinforcement, and that in all cases the concrete shall be bedded solidly against the steel and there shall be no intervening cavity; (xi) that fillets, strips and blocks of wood or other combustible materials shall not be embedded in the thickness of the fine concrete necessary—(1) to transmit stresses; (2) to provide protection to any steelwork or reinforcement; or (3) to comply with any of these conditions; (xii) that when the material above the void is effectively arched or haunched the thickness of the material at the crown shall not be less than 2 inches; (xiii) that when the material above the void is not effectively arched or haunched the thickness of the material above the void shall be not less than—

- (1) 2·0 inches in cases in which the width of the void is not more than 4 inches.
- (2) 2·5 inches in cases in which the width of the void is not more than 5 inches.
- (3) 3·0 inches in cases in which the width of the void is 6 inches and over;

(xiv) that the thickness of the soffit of the voids (exclusive of any plaster) shall be not less than three-quarters of an inch; (xv) that the thickness of the material above the void added to the thickness of the soffit (exclusive of any plaster) shall not be less than three inches; (xvi.) that the dimensions specified in the foregoing conditions shall refer only to questions of fire-resistance and resistance to impact during fires apart from any requirements in respect of imposed loads and working stresses under normal conditions of use.

Provided that this approval shall not in any way derogate from any of the powers of the Council, and shall not in any way affect the requirements of: (1) the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1908, with respect to cubical extent of buildings; (2) the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1909, with respect to the enclosure or encasing of pillars or girders with brickwork, terra cotta, stone, tiles, or other incombustible materials; and (3) the regulations made under the provision of Section 23 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1909, with respect to the construction of buildings wholly or partly of reinforced concrete.—Yours, etc.,

G. TOPHAM FORREST,

Superintending Architect, L.C.C.

SHEFFIELD.—Another 250 houses are to be subsidised.—Loans have been sanctioned of £4,275 for the purchase of land and £75,892 for the erection of houses at Wybourn.—Messrs. Henry Boot & Sons (London), Ltd., are to proceed with their contract for another 400 houses—Land in Orchard Place is to be acquired for the erection of a maternity and child welfare centre, and the City Architect is to prepare plans for a building to cost about £20,000.—Plans passed: Six houses, Mildred Road, for Mr. J. Reed; six houses, Meadow Head, for Mr. W. Christie; 16 houses and shops and 12 garages, Middlewood Road, for Mr. A. Lonsdale; six houses and five garages, Eccleshall Road South, for Mr. W. Ramsay.—The Corporation have accepted the tender, £5,916, of Mr. S. C. Boul, builder, Main Road, Intake, for the erection of 12 houses in Retford Road.

Bye Laws—and Principles.

P. L. Dickinson, Architect.

At present the revision of by-laws is exercising the minds of many local authorities in England, and it is high time that some co-relation took place and the present chaotic state of affairs brought to an end. Now that town planning is taking a firm grip on the country at large, the whole subject of civics is beginning to be understood, and it is essential that certain main principles as to construction, etc., should be readable. Town planning, to be successful, must, it is now admitted, be regional rather than local, and this lack of cohesion of by-laws between the local authorities in one region has been one of the minor difficulties of the plan as a whole. Most by-laws have not been revised for many years, and all kinds of vexatious restrictions as to thickness of walls, heights of rooms, etc., remain, which do not in any sense add to efficiency. For instance, many local by-laws still lay down minimum height of 9 feet for ground floor rooms, whereas experienced opinion is practically unanimous in agreeing that 8 feet is adequate in most cases. Dozens of such examples could be quoted, which are well known to those connected with design as a whole, and the whole subject is one which requires constant revision, especially so at this time with building at the high price that it now is. Prices, indeed, seem to be stabilising at last, after the war, and architects and builders are beginning to think a little way ahead and to make their plans accordingly.

I think one can, without being unduly optimistic, hope that the broad lines of architectural design are beginning to be thought out in a more logical way than was the case two or three generations ago, and that the standard is really improving. The present system of University training as a substitute for the older system of apprenticeship has become exceedingly thorough, and in the building design for the younger generation one can see the hopeful tendency towards simplicity, restraint and harmony—in short, a general monumental quality that was entirely lacking in most public buildings of twenty or fifty years ago. What chances the architects of those days had, and how they abused them! It is difficult to find a building of that period in the whole country that is not offensive to modern eyes.

One of the worst practices in the past was the blind copying of the orders and classic proportions generally, as laid down by the text-books, with little thought as to the principles underlying the forms. The whole question of the use of the orders is, of course, an extraordinarily difficult one, and one may say without being unduly optimistic that the present tendency is for the column to disappear, unless it is definitely constructional, and as such part of the design. In the early days of the Italian renaissance this question was a vexed one, and the three main schools in Rome, Venice and Florence fully realised the difficulty of the problem. Rome, nearest to the classic examples, continued the use of one order to a façade. The Venetians, on the other hand, realising the difficulties of satisfactory fenestration under this system, often used an order to each floor, a method which was unsuccessful and which entirely killed the classic spirit. Florence, taking its own line, largely disregarded the use of columns and depended on the effect of good massing and an important cornice and plinth.

The great difficulty in architecture, as in speech, is to really understand what the other fellow is driving at. Educated people use, generally speaking, the same words, but the thought behind these words is different, and the difficulty of conveying thought by language is immense—in fact, it is doubtful if we ever really understand the thoughts of another through speech, except on the most simple and elementary facts. The same thing applies to architecture. If one studies the building, one may fail, in a large measure, to understand what the designer was trying to obtain, and consequently it is very easy to misinterpret his aims and misjudge the results. One cannot always be certain of this, but it is in many cases highly

probable. The more reason then for all of us to be as clear and logical as we can, both in the discussion of such subjects and in their practical realisation. It is an old axiom, too often ignored in practice, that everything pertaining to a building should serve a definite function, either for use, or if as a decoration, with a definite meaning. What one may call the picturesque type of plan or ornament, used for its own sake and not for the purpose of emphasis, is not logical and, therefore, bad art. No one of the younger generation

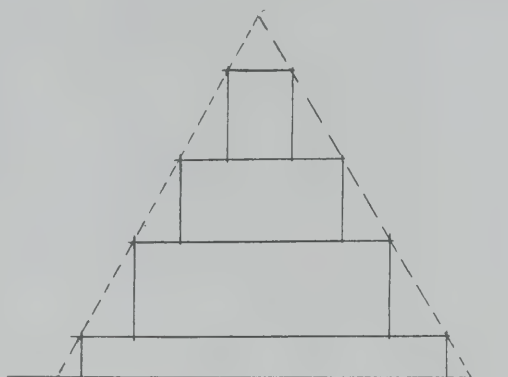


Fig 1

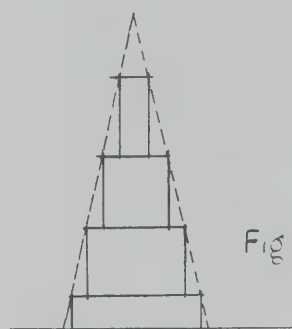


Fig 2

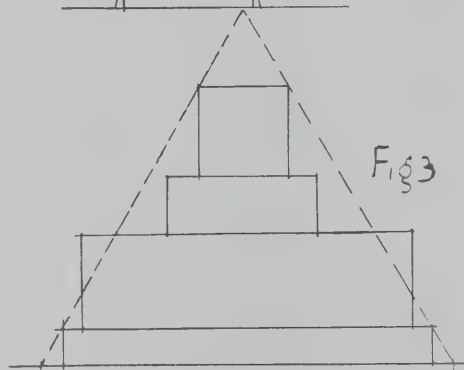


Fig 3

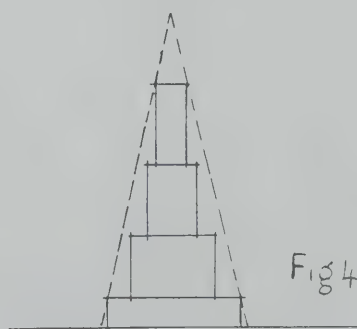


Fig 4

seems to read Ruskin nowadays, but it is a pity they don't, as, although he wrote a great deal that is doubtless rather boring to modern minds, yet his main ideas on the subject are wonderfully sound and ahead of most modern critical writers.

Some of the schools teach a sort of system of design, based on a balance of elevation in a composition which seems to be getting at something approaching a principle.

One cannot, of course, be sure that this may not be merely a more or less arbitrary convention, as principles in art are dangerous things, and a principle as laid down by one school may be regarded merely as a prejudice by another. There may be certain undefined rules of form which govern all design, but, again, there may not. In this matter it is safer to be an agnostic, but one cannot help rather feeling that some such broad rules are in the course of being evolved. A well-known American architect, writing recently in one of our technical journals, emphasised the fact that in a city a normal view of a building is at what he calls quarter scale, and that if one pauses to look at a building, the distance selected usually approximately represents this scale. That is to say, that the building is at the same apparent distance to the eye as is a quarter scale drawing on the board. This, superficially considered, does not seem to matter very much, but some reflection will show that it is really of consequence. The fact that emerges most clearly, if this view is correct, is that detail which does not tell on a quarter scale drawing will not tell in reality on the actual building. It is interesting to test this theory, which certainly appears to be true, and, if so, we seem near a principle here, and it is a subject worth study and development.

The new height zoning laws in certain American cities again suggest certain ideas which do not seem to have been worked out. I do not know if anyone has written on this subject of an outline contained in a pyramid, but I have never seen any such idea in print.

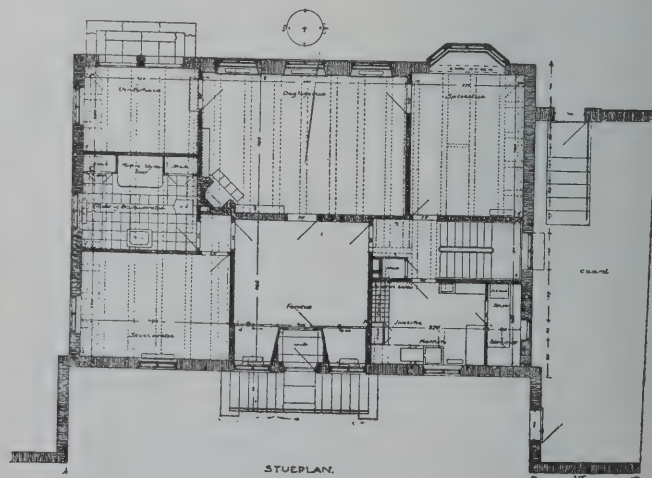
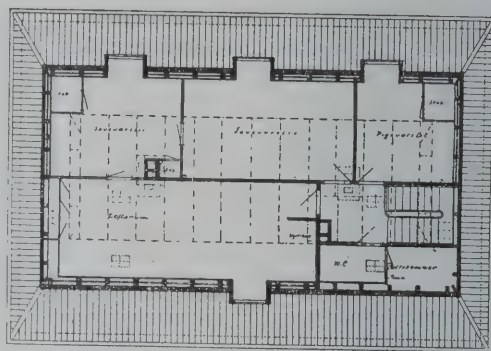
In the given diagrams it will be noticed that in Figs. 1 and 2, each horizontal line cuts each vertical line at a point where they coincide with an imaginary line drawn from base to apex. In other words, the whole design is contained in a pyramid. Now, in Figs. 3 and 4 it will be seen that the line joining the same points from base to apex does not coincide with points where the horizontal and vertical lines meet. In other words, the design is not contained in a pyramid. The whole of the pyramid does not appear to be of such importance, but experiment will show the reader that any design carried out on the principles of 1 and 2 is satisfactory and has rhythm and balance, while combinations on the lines of Figs. 3 and 4 are lacking in balance and strike the eye in the same unpleasant way that a discord does the ear. An interesting test could be made in this connection by making a few diagrams on the above lines and erasing the lines of the pyramid and showing the result of the drawings to anyone of good taste, and, without mentioning the pyramid, ask him to select which he considers the pleasantest shapes. It will be found that he invariably selects those based on 1 and 2. It is not suggested that a definite principle has been discovered here, but it does seem that herein lies a germ of an idea that is capable of being developed into something like a broad rule, so far as it is applicable to elevations. I rather emphasise the word elevations, as in the matter of perspective the thing is not quite so simple, and one would have to experiment with drawings or, better still, with a series of cubes designed to carry out the conditions. I commend this idea to some enterprising class of design, and am sure a good deal of data could be worked out on these lines, without in any way violating what one may term the good grammar of architecture.

WORKING.—The Surveyor is to report as to fencing at St. John's Lye playing fields.—The Surveyor has prepared estimates for the Pyrford Road drainage scheme, the cost being about £3,000.—Plans of a proposed new bridge to replace Arthur's Bridge are to be forwarded to the Ministry of Transport, with application for grant.—A scheme is to be undertaken for the widening of Chobham Road.—As the Ministry of Health deem tenders for the erection of houses too high, the Council are negotiating with the contractors in the hope of arranging prices which the Ministry will agree to, the tenders recommended by the Council being as follow: Mr. J. E. Jones, seven blocks of four brick houses, £13,601, and four blocks of six brick houses, £11,636, and Triangular Construction Co., Ltd., six pairs of cottages, breeze and concrete block construction, £5,940; eight pairs at £7,920; and two blocks each containing four flats, £3,250.

The G.P.O. Arts Club.

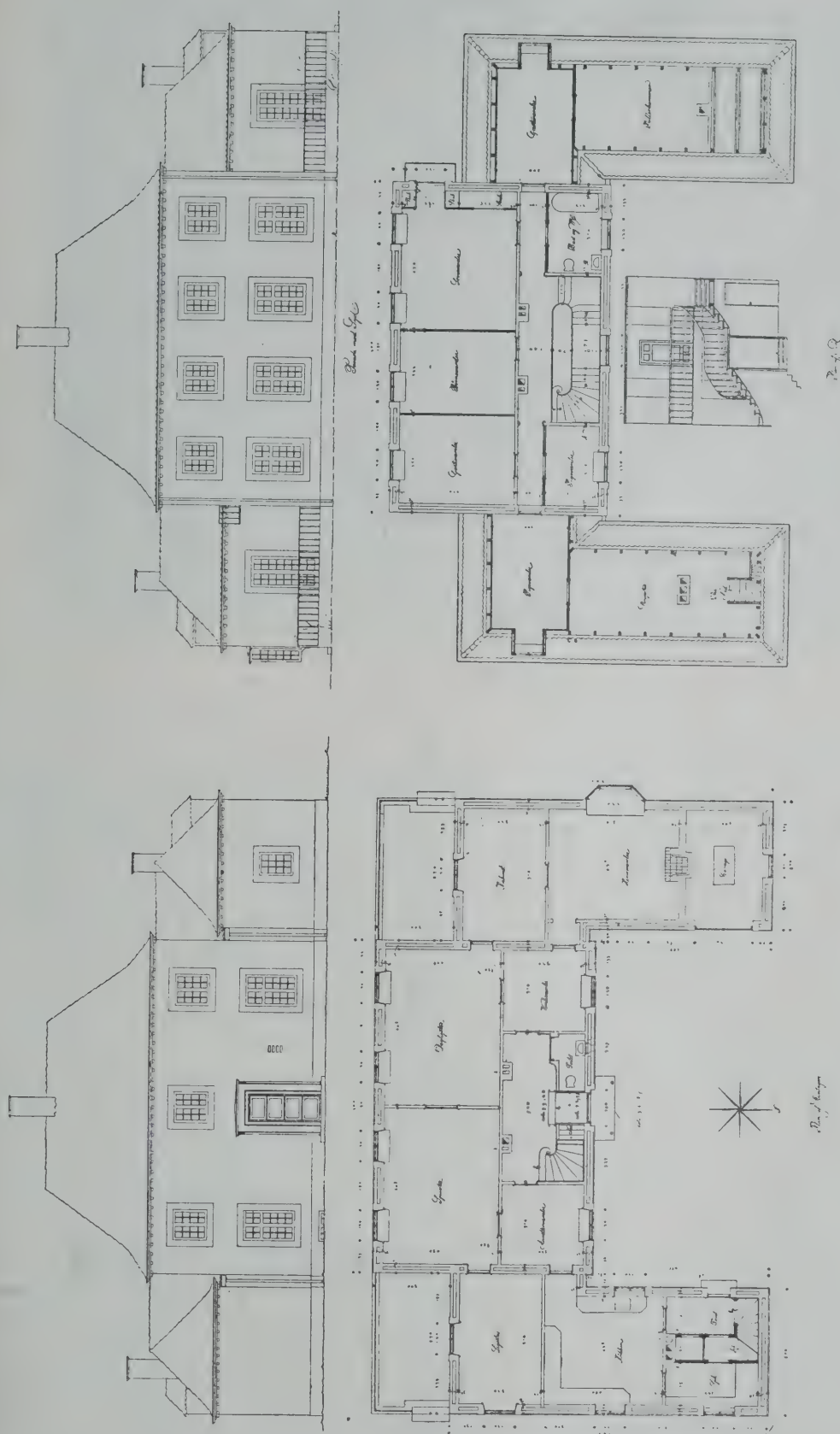
Recently we reviewed an exhibition of painting and sculpture by active and retired officers of the Army. Whilst the G.P.O. Arts Club exhibition, which was opened on October 12 by the Postmaster-General, the Right Hon. Sir William Mitchell Thomson, Bt., K.B.E., M.P., does not contain work of the standard of the artists of the Army, the quality for all that is full of promise and vitality.

The G.P.O. Arts Club was formed in February, 1906, for the purpose of encouraging the production of original works of art by members of all sections of the postal, telegraph, and allied services. The present exhibition is the thirteenth and should, in spite of superstition, prove very attractive.



HOUSE AT VESTAGERVEJ IN RYVANGEN.
MAGDAHL-NIELSEN, Architect.

From "The Architekten," Denmark.



CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE.

HOUSE IN THE DANISH QUARTER OF PHILADELPHIA. WILLIAM LAURITZEN, Architect.

From "The Architect," Denmark.

Art Notes.

Sunderland Public Art Gallery.



THE ENTOMBMENT. ANTONIO MARAINI.

A very interesting and representative exhibition of modern Italian art has been on view at the Sunderland Public Art Gallery. The same collection was shown in June last in London at the Lefevre Gallery, 1A King Street, St. James, S.W.1. When the Italian Ambassador opened the exhibition in London he stated that the exhibition was the first opportunity that had been afforded to a group of young Italian artists to hold an exhibition of their work in London, and to submit their art to the approval of the London art-loving public. The organisers have extended their programme, and have sent the collection to Sunderland, and it is to be hoped that other places will be afforded a similar opportunity. His Excellency referred to the recognition that Italy had given to British art in the great exhibitions at Venice and Rome, on which occasion the authorities had allocated special galleries for our exhibits. And it was his Excellency's hope that this interchange of facilities to artists would not only continue but would be considerably extended. We venture to hope that the exhibition of the collection by the Sunderland authorities will afford to the Italian artists some small proof of our appreciation of their attitude towards British artists exhibiting in their country.

The collection of pictures and sculpture is full of varied interest. The attraction mainly lies in the opportunity we here possess of seeing how the artists of another nation, living under different circumstances and having temperaments unlike our own, feel on the matter of modern artistic expression.

It is, of course, natural that in the main no great difference is manifested. True, some of the Italian artists have produced effective pictures in a technique not frequently seen in this country. "Autumn," No. 3, by Pelizza, is rendered in a style which produces wonderful tones. The blue sky is flecked with small spots of purple which merge with the stronger colour, but give to the latter a value which it would be difficult to produce by any other method. In the foreground the barren mounds of earth are given additional value and interest by virtue of the texture of the browns that form their chief tone. The picture seems to be a living thing. A photograph would have been taken and an illus-

tration given with this notice if one had had any hope of retaining the atmospheric effect. The picture will be long remembered by those who have had the pleasure of inspecting its singular beauty and attraction. "The Procession," No. 5, by Brass, is painted in the impressionistic manner and of its class it is good. No. 6, "The Tiber near Rome," by Carlandi, is a pleasing landscape, sunlight floods the scene; the river is treated in a simple manner. No. 11, "Children," Gaudenzi, has many good points, though the picture really just misses being wonderful. The fault seems to be in the visitor being left in some doubt as to whether the two heads are in proper perspective. The side view face on the left is not modelled so effectively as the other; the light between the two heads seems to mar a perfect harmony. The colouring, on the other hand, is fascinating in the extreme. Nos. 21, 22 and 24 are by the same artist, Ciardi, Emma. Nos. 21 and 22 lack a variety in the technique. No. 24, on the other hand is a much more successful effort. No. 19, "Seaside," by Oppi, an impression of a town viewed from above. The roofs are unfortunately quarrelling with each other; some repose gracefully and correctly on their respective buildings, others seem to resent their position. The colouring is quaint, if somewhat dull.

No. 48, "Still Life," by Marussig. This painting is a representation of crockery; the forms and shapes are not very happy. No. 50, "Terrace in Capri," Tommasi, has much that will attract many friends. The brilliant southern colouring has been faithfully rendered. Sunlight radiates from the canvas in a most convincing manner. The subject is not easy to paint, but has in this case been most successfully pictured. No. 57, "St. Gemignano," De Grada. This picture might be described as a modern painting of an uninteresting subject. As a rule modern artists seem to desire to not only paint these uninteresting subjects but to render them in a style and manner contrary to all the rules of perspective. Some parts of the picture are full of merit, whereas other portions are best left without detailed comment. No. 60, "The View," Marussig, is painted in pale colours. The whole is effective and the technique employed has much to recommend itself.

R.I.B.A. Notes.

Copy of a letter sent to the President of the R.I.B.A.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM,

South Kensington, S.W.7.

October 15, 1925.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you that the Trustees propose holding an exhibition of War Memorial Models and photographs on the next anniversary of the Armistice.

We have already received over 1,000 photographs of Memorials, and also the promise of many sketch models.

The President of the Royal Society of Sculptors kindly circularised all his members in this respect, and I should be glad to know whether you would be disposed to take similar action with regard to your own members. If so, we would suggest that a brief urgent letter might be sent out requesting architects who have been concerned in the erection of War Memorials to present to us for permanent record or lend a small framed photograph of the particular Memorial or Memorials for which they were responsible. In order to avoid duplication it might be suggested that the architects interested should first of all communicate with us in order that we may inform them whether or not we already possess a record.

As the Exhibition is to be opened on November 11, we should require exhibits to reach us not later than the 31st inst.—I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) CHARLES FFOULKES,

Curator and Secretary.

GRAVESEND.—The Electrical Engineer is to prepare a scheme for the provision of showrooms for the department.—Plans passed: 10 houses, Ferndale Road, for Messrs. W. E. & H. E. Thomas, Ltd.—The Housing Committee recommend the tender of Mr. Jesse Clements for the erection of 12 blocks, a total of 48 flats, at £17,520.

British Industries Fair.**Record Number of Applications for Space.**

The eleventh British Industries Fair to be held in London and Birmingham from February 15 to 26 next year promises already in many ways to be the most successful, interesting and representative Fair of the series. Although forms of application for space have been in the hands of potential exhibitors only a few days over 100,000 square feet of space has already been applied for, and new applications are being received daily by the Secretary of the Fair. This exceptional demand is, no doubt, due to the fact that so many firms realise the advantage of exhibiting in a Fair on the advertising of which the Government has decided to expend the sum of £20,000 in a world-wide publicity campaign. Further, the charge for space has been reduced this year at both London and Birmingham, the charge in London being 2s. 6d. per square foot.

Up to the beginning of the present week over 110 different firms had made applications for space at the London Section, and some idea of the value and importance which exhibitors attach to the British Industries Fair may be realised from the fact that of the applicants 18 have shown at all the previous fairs, 21 firms have shown at from 6 to 9 previous fairs, 14 have shown at 5 previous fairs, 11 have shown at 4 previous fairs, 33 have shown at more than one previous fair and 14 are entirely new firms.

The suspension of the London section of the Fair this year was a matter of regret on the part of a very large number of former exhibitors, and particularly to a well-known firm of pottery manufacturers, who have exhibited at the Fair since its inception and who, as a result of it, have regularly, year by year, increased their sales by over 50 per cent. on the previous year.

Tender Results.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF BETHNAL GREEN.—List of tenders for the erection of 32 flats at the corner of Parmiter Street and Cambridge Road. Mr. E. C. P. Monson, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., &c., Architect, Finsbury Pavement House, 120 Moorgate, E.C.2. Quantities by Messrs. Geo. Corderoy & Co., 21 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.1. H. Knight & Son, £31,418; C. P. Roberts & Co., Ltd., £30,100; S. E. Moss, £28,151; W. Lawrence & Son, Ltd., £27,972; Allen Fairhead & Sons, Ltd., £27,923; Rice & Son, £27,816; Bovis, Ltd., £27,598; Patman & Fotheringham, Ltd., £27,372; Walter Jones & Sons, Ltd., £27,221; A. Monk, £26,730; *W. Simms, £25,607. *Accepted.

MIDDLESEX.—For alterations and additional classrooms, cloakrooms, &c., at the County School, Southall, for the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect. Tenders: G. Holland & Sons, Ealing, £19,436 17s. 7d.; E. Plaistowe & Sons, Ltd., Southall, £16,850; W. Lawrence & Son, Ltd., London, £16,642; A. Monk, Edmonton, £16,550; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £16,495; Y. J. Lovell & Son, Gerrards Cross, £16,379; W. Lacey, Hounslow, £16,321; H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £16,154; W. S. Try, Cowley, £15,906; A. & B. Hanson, Ltd., Southall, £15,806; G. Bollom & Sons, Ltd., Acton, £15,647; *Ferris Bros., Acton, £15,523. *Recommended for acceptance.

For the erection of new primary school at Feltham, for the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect. Tenders: W. Lawrence & Son, Ltd., London, £15,189; A. Monk, Edmonton, £14,893; W. H. Gaze & Sons, Ltd., Kingston, £14,864; H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, £14,854; G. Bollom & Son, Ltd., Acton, £14,717; Leslie & Co., Ltd., London, £14,695; W. Lacey, Hounslow, £14,529; W. J. Maddison, Ltd., London, £14,429; Ferris Bros., Acton, £14,419; Y. J. Lovell & Son, Gerrards Cross, £14,374; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £14,117.* *Recommended for acceptance.

HOUSING AT TOTTENHAM.—Out of some thirty or forty candidates who answered the advertisement for an architect for the remaining part of the Housing Scheme, the Tottenham Urban District Council selected six, who recently appeared before them, and Mr. E. C. P. Monson, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., &c., of Finsbury Pavement House, 120 Moorgate, London, E.C.2, was successful in obtaining the appointment. There are about 250 to 300 houses still to be erected.



VESTIBULE OF VIGO HOUSE, REGENT STREET.
SIR JOHN J. BURNET, R.A., & PARTNERS, Architects.

General News.

ASKERN.—West Riding Education Committee are to erect a mining centre at Askern at a cost of £2,400 for buildings and £500 for equipment.

BARNES.—Mr. S. E. Castle, architect, 40 Albemarle Street, W., has prepared a scheme for the erection of 44 garages on the Barker estate adjoining Clifford Bridge.—Plans passed: 7 garages, Parkfield avenue, for Mr. J. A. Carter; additions and conversion into flats, 26 The Terrace, for Mr. R. B. Rowell, architect, Triangle Corner, Sheen Lane, E. Sheen, S.W.14.

BARNESLEY.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of buildings at the Soughley pumping station.—The Housing Committee recommend the tender of Messrs. W. Dunk & Sons, Peel Street, for the erection of 100 houses at the Pontefract estate at £420 per house, and the tender of Mr. C. Smith for the erection of 100 houses at Ardsley at £420 per house.

BIRMINGHAM.—Extensions are to be carried out at the Rubery and Hollymoor mental hospitals at a cost of £6,000.—Pavilions, conveniences and improvements are proposed at various parks at a total cost of £22,245.—A scheme has been prepared for the extension and rebuilding of the Rotton Park salvage depot at a cost of £78,000.—Further contracts in connection with the Hockley Valley drainage at a cost of £205,000 have been let, and it is proposed to arrange for the reconstruction of the Hockley main sewer at a cost of £124,000 and the reconstruction of sewers at Summer Lane and Hockley Hill at a cost of £35,400.—A further extension at the Moseley secondary school is to be undertaken at a cost of £25,000.—Another block is to be built at the Billesley elementary school at a cost of £15,000.—Contracts for houses on various sites have been accepted as follow: Morris & Jacombs, 86, at £475 each; G. Stubbings, 67, at £415; P. W. Cox, 289, at £478 10s.; G. Stubbings, 72, at £415; C. Hougham, builder, 39 Temple Row, 54, at £437; W. S. Hattrell, four, at £425; Phormium Co., Ltd., four, at £435; Wm. Griffiths & Sons & Cromwell, Ltd., two, at £450; W. J. Edwards Construction, Ltd., 74, at £507 10s.; Baron Bonde, two, at £435; G. & J. Weir, Ltd., two, at £400; W. J. Edwards Construction, Ltd., 144, at £490, and 932, at £415; Morris & Jacomb, 78, at £467, and 12, at £485; Simms, Sons & Cooke, Ltd., 344, at £417, and 262, at £492 10s.; Geo. Smith (Birmingham), Ltd., 22, at £415.

BOLTON.—Plans passed: Extension to cart shed, Deane Mill, Wigan Road, for Messrs. H. Poole & Co., Ltd.; six houses, Captain Clough Road, for Messrs. Leigh Bros., builders, Jubilee Buildings, Bark Street; alterations, Mill Hill Tavern, Windley Street, for Messrs. Tong & Sons, Ltd.; 15 houses, Abingdon Road, eight houses, New Barn Street, and four houses and shops, Chorley Old Road, for Messrs. Leigh Bros., Ltd.; three houses, Harpers Lane, for Mr. W. W. Pickup, builders, 2 and 4 Rutland Street; extension, brass foundry, Blackhorse Street, for Messrs. Kay & Co.; store, Jones Street, for Messrs. Barlow & Jones, Ltd.; 12 houses, Hill Cot Road, for Mr. George Sykes; six houses, Sharples Avenue, for Mr. Arthur H. Price; Roman Catholic secondary school, Tnornleigh, Sharples Park, for Rev. John Burke.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—The Corporation have accepted the tender of £3,756 by Messrs. A. Holmes & Sons, of Fallow Bridge, for the erection of a bus garage at Horninglow Street.

CARLISLE.—The Corporation are to obtain sanction for a loan of £2,000 for the extension of water mains.—Plans passed: Estate development, Scotland Road, for Messrs. Benwell & Slack, architects, 28, Lowther Street; four houses, Scotland Road, for Mr. H. H. Hodgkinson, architect; additions to premises of Marks & Spencer, English Street, for Mr. H. E. Scarborough, architect, 21, Lowther Street; two houses, Etterby Street, for Mr. H. Foxall, architect, 54 Lowther Street; four houses, Bedford Road, for Messrs. Benwell & Slack, architects.

CHADDERTON.—Mr. A. W. Cox, the surveyor, has submitted plans for the proposed erection of 50 houses on the Burnley Lane site and 20 houses on the Denton Lane site. The scheme has been approved by the Council and tenders are to be submitted in due course.

CHELTFENHAM.—The Corporation have decided to construct an underground convenience at Long Garden at a cost of £2,500.—The Corporation have approved of lay out and plans of 14 houses, prepared by Thos. Malvern, architect, 21 Winchcombe Street, to be erected on the Stanhope Street improvement area.—Plans passed: 60 non-parlour houses, St. Latks, for the Corporation; store building, Dunalley Street, for Original Brewery Co.

CITY OF LONDON.—The Corporation have sold 27½ acres of surplus housing land at Ilford for £18,000.

DINNINGTON.—Plans have been prepared by the West Riding Education Committee for the erection of a mining and technical

institute at Dinnington, at a cost of £21,500 for buildings and £4,000 for equipment.

DONCASTER.—West Riding Education Committee have authorised extensions at the Doncaster Technical College at an estimated cost of £20,000.

EASTBOURNE.—Tentative plans have been prepared by the Borough Engineer for the construction of a bathing pool at the Redoubt.—Mr. J. T. Wenham proposes to erect 12 subsidy houses at St. Anthony's Mount.—Plans passed: Alterations and additions Crompton Grange, Silverdale Road, for Mr. P. D. Stoneham, architect, Hadley House, Upperton Road; additions, Eagle Hotel, South Street, for Messrs. Denman & Sons, architects, for Kemp Town Brewery; alterations, ice works, Beach Road, for Mr. P. D. Stoneham, architect, for Eastbourne Ice Co.; four houses, St. Phillip's Avenue, for Mr. F. C. Benz, architect, 49 Gildredge Road, for Messrs. W. Llewellyn & Sons; four houses, Victoria Drive, for Mr. A. Ford, architect, 7 Gildredge Road, for Messrs. Fish & Smith.

ECCLESFIELD.—West Riding Education Committee are acquiring compulsorily a site in Colt Lane, Ecclesfield, for the erection of a secondary school.

GOOSNARGH.—Mr. B. Crabtree, architect, 9 Winckley Square, Preston, has prepared plans for the erection of a new Sunday School for the Wesleyan Church.

HACKNEY.—Plans passed: factory, 34 Bentley Road, for Messrs. R. Maskall & Sons, boiler house at British Home for Deaf and Dumb Women, Lower Clapton Road, for Messrs. Barrett & Power.

HARROGATE.—Plans have been prepared by the West Riding Education Committee for the erection of a new secondary school at Harrogate at a cost of £75,000.

ILFORD.—Mr. S. Robinson has prepared a scheme for roads and sewers and erecting 250 houses on the Wanstead Lane estate, Ilford.

ILKLEY.—The Board of Education have approved of the acquisition of a site by the West Riding Education Committee for the erection of a girls' secondary school for Ilkley.

LEEDS.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £2,180 for the purchase of land at Wyrther Park for the erection of an elementary school.—A loan of £6,817 has been sanctioned for the erection of branch libraries at Bramley and Burley.—The Housing and Electricity Committees are considering the erection of 50 all-electric houses.—A central heating system is to be installed at the Hope Hospital.—The City Engineer has prepared plans for four shops to be erected at the Middleton estate.—Eighteen acres of the Wyeher House estate, Armley, are being purchased for a housing scheme.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Swinnow Drive, Bramley, for Messrs. J. W. Dufton & Sons, Ltd., builders, 45 Warrel's Grove, Bramley; 16 houses, estate off Walmsley Road, for Mr. Walter Ripley, builder, 15 Leighton Lane; 6 houses, Berkeley View, Harehills, for Mr. J. Ambler.—The Corporation have accepted the tender of Messrs. A. Lambert & Son for the erection of baths at Holbeck for £8,462 11s. and £1,126 10s. for the boiler setting and chimney.—The Corporation Housing Committee have accepted the tender of Messrs. A. Braithwaite & Co. for the erection of 500 houses at £410 3s. 3d. per type A2 house each and £460 each for type A3 houses.

LITTLEHAMPTON.—The Urban District Council are to obtain further information regarding suggestions of the Band Committee for the erection of a new bandstand and the construction of café kiosks and a public convenience.

SCUNTHORPE.—The Urban District Council have instructed its engineer and surveyor to prepare a scheme for the erection of baths at the old Gas Works site, Doncaster Road, utilising the present boilers if possible, and to include the provision of plunge baths, boys' baths, ladies' baths, and 12 slipper baths.

SOUTHPORT.—Mr. A. Jackson, M.Inst.C.E., borough engineer and surveyor to the County Borough of Southport, has prepared plans for the erection of a block of shops and offices having frontage to East Bank Street and extensions to the Art Gallery on the Sharrock Street frontage. A tender submitted by Messrs. Jonathan Partington, Ltd., contractors, of Middleton Junction, has been recommended for acceptance.

WARWICK.—Messrs. F. P. Trepass & Son, architects, 1 Church Street, have prepared plans for extending the large hall at Myton School.—Mr. Trepass has also been asked to prepare plans for the erection of 60 houses on the housing estate.

WESTMINSTER.—The City Council have prepared revised plans for the reconstruction of Marshall Street baths and wash-houses to meet the objections of the Ministry of Health with regard to brick construction. Plans passed: erection of building corner of Piccadilly and Brick Street, for Messrs. H. Tanner, architects, Hanover Square, W.1.



"New Carmelite House," the new building illustrated above, is being constructed for Associated Newspapers, Ltd., at the corner of Tudor Street and Whitefriars Street, not far from the Victoria Embankment. The Architects are Messrs. Herbert O. Ellis & Clarke, FF.R.I.B.A., and the Contractors are Messrs. Allen Fairhead & Sons, Ltd. The exterior of the building is to be in "Atlas White" cast concrete stone, produced by The Patent Impervious Stone and Construction Co., Ltd. "Colemanoid" has been used in the mass concrete of which the retaining walls are constructed and "Colemanoid" is specified for the floor surfaces. This new "Daily Mail" installation will be one of the most beautiful business buildings in London. Its exterior colour and textural scheme will be well worth a visit of inspection. Have you seen a copy of "Cast Stone"?

agent House,
agent Street,
ondon, W.1.

Frederic Coleman

Building Progress in and near London.

On the site of James Powell's old glass works in Tudor Street, Whitefriars, there is being erected a large block of buildings for the "Daily Mail," to be known as "Carmelite House"; it is from the designs of Messrs. H. O. Ellis & Clarke, the general contractors being Allen Fairhead & Sons. Nelson Wise has been responsible for demolition and excavation; Moreland, Hayne & Co., for structural steelwork; the Patent Impervious Stone and Construction Co., Ltd., for the artificial stone, which will be employed for the elevations; and Crittall's metal windows will be used.

At Hanwell Broadway, at the corner of Boston Road, a terrace of eight business premises is in course of erection from the designs of Mr. F. Hall-Jones; the contractors are A. & B. Hanson, Ltd.; the structural steelwork is supplied by the Aston Construction Co., Ltd.; for the Flettons, Hicks & Co., Ltd., furnished the supply; Brooks, Phillips & Co., Ltd., for sanitary ware, including the "B.P." pedestal w.c. apparatus, the "Nuras" lavatory basin and the "Burlington" w.w.p. The buildings are on two storeys, the upper being in red bricks.

The Acton Borough Council is extending its public baths, the builders being J. Woollard & Sons.

The Midland Bank (like the Westminster Bank) is greatly in evidence just now in regard to its building programme, as it has commenced work upon the large area in Poultry, where it proposes to establish new head offices; the designs will be by Messrs. Gotch & Saunders, in conjunction with Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A. At the moment of writing, however, the only firms in evidence are the following:—B. Goodman, Ltd., for demolition and excavation; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Co., artesian wells; and the building contractors, Rice & Son. In Hammersmith, too, close to the Broadway—in King Street—the present Midland Bank branch is undergoing extension, with John Clements as house-breaker, and Courtney & Fairbairn, Ltd., as general contractors.

In Staines Road, Hounslow, Mr. J. W. Bream is having a branch of his meat-purveying business established in new premises now being erected from the design of Mr. Harry West, A.R.I.B.A. It is a two-storey semi-detached building, the façade being in red bricks and Carrara ware, the latter being supplied by Doulton's; the green glazed bricks on the façade are supplied by Dunn's (of Birmingham), W. Morgan (of Hounslow) supplying the white wall-tiling and W. N. Froy supplying the sanitary fittings, etc. T. A. Chapman is the builder.

Whilst it was a source of regret, when the disappearance of Smirke's fine block in St. Martin's-le-Grand took place, yet, once it had vanished, people were able to appreciate, at its proper value, the view thus opened out, showing Goldsmiths' Hall. Optimists might hope, that the City Fathers would perchance negotiate for the retention of the cleared site as an open space; it was a hopeless aspiration, in view of the enormous value of the site, and, consequently, no surprise can be felt in finding buildings in course of erection, which will shortly once again relegate the City Hall to its former obscurity. The architects for all the new buildings are Messrs. Gunton & Gunton, one block being a branch of the Westminster Bank, for which Prestige & Co., Ltd., are the general contractors, and Moreland Hayne's are the structural steel engineers. Another portion has Holloway Brothers (London), Ltd., as general contractors, and Crittall Manufacturing Co. for the metal windows. Still another portion has Arthur Vigor, Ltd., as general contractors, and the following sub-contractors:—Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., structural steelwork; Thomas Faldo & Co., Ltd., asphalt; Caxton Floors, Ltd., for their hollow-block fire-resisting floors; Ordell Masonry Co., for stonework; Stuart's Granolithic Co., Ltd., for granolithic paving and cast stone; Henry Hope and Sons, for metal windows; Francis Poldon & Co., Ltd., for electric lighting and power installation; A. Grant & Sons, plumbing; Allensons, Ltd.; special joinery fittings; Blunt & Wray, Ltd., wrought ironwork; and A. Goslett & Co., Ltd., glass and glazing.

Extensive alterations and additions have recently been carried out at the Cancer Free Hospital in Fulham Road. Higgs & Hill, Ltd., were the general contractors; Redpath, Brown & Co. supplied the structural steel work; Waygood-Otis lifts were installed; and Thomas Potterton undertook the heating and hot water supply. The new work consisted partly in the provision of new operating theatres.

The new extension in Tudor and Bouverie Street for the offices of the "Star" and "Daily News" has Messrs. Trollope and Colls, Ltd., as the general contractors. Greenham, Ltd., are undertaking the demolition and excavation, and Moreland Hayne & Co., Ltd., the constructional steelwork. The framework is just beginning to make a show, and we hope to give further information later.

In Essex Street, Strand, a fine block of new office buildings is in course of construction; Bovis, Ltd., are the general contractors; C. Isler & Co., Ltd., for artesian wells; the constructional steelwork by Somerville-Barnard Ltd.; Francis Polden & Co., Ltd., for electrical engineering; and N.P.B. Co. for stock bricks. The building consists of basement, ground floor and three storeys over, and presents a simple but dignified and pleasant appearance.

In St. John Street we also notice two other blocks in hand, one where the architects are Messrs. Percy Tubbs, Son & Duncan; the builders are Gladding & Co. The other is a more important block, being an extension into this thoroughfare for E. Pollard & Co.'s existing factory in Aylesbury Street. The general contractors are John Greenwood, Ltd. Sub-contracting firms are: Johnson's Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., for floors; Drew-Bear, Perks & Co., structural steel; Thomas Faldo, asphalt; Pollards are themselves supplying the steel shutters; the London Brick Co. & Forders, Fletton bricks; Hammond Brothers & Champness, Ltd., lifts; Stuarts Granolithic Co., for pre-cast stone and paving; and Williams, Gamon & Co. (Kaleyards), Ltd., metal windows.

Messrs. A. and S. Gatti are having considerable works in alteration executed at their premises in Chandos Street, Charing Cross. Higgs & Hill, Ltd., are the general contractors; Smith, Walker, Ltd., for structural steelwork; Stigler lifts are being installed (Marcel Poin being the sole concessionaire for Great Britain); Comyn Ching & Co., Ltd., for architectural metal work. On the opposite side of the street, the "Chandos" is also in the hands of the builder (W. A. King & Sons); Finch & Co., Ltd., are engaged for the sanitary fittings, hot water supply, drainage and plumbing.

A competition of great interest to the architectural profession is that for the proposed new Freemason's Hall in Great Queen Street; meanwhile opposite the existing headquarters there has been recently erected a very fine block for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Allen Fairhead & Sons, Ltd., are the general contractors; Nelson Wise was engaged for demolition and excavation on the site; and S. Bysouth supplied the masonry. This is an exceptionally attractive Renaissance pile.

Nos. 14-16 Waterloo Place, are being rebuilt for suites of offices from the design of Mr. Durward Brown. The general contractors are Holland & Hannen and Cubitts, Ltd.; B. Goodman for demolition and excavation; Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., for steelwork; Lawford & Co., asphalt; F. Bradford & Co., for hollow tile floors; C. H. Mabey, carving; and John C. Christie for heating; Aldous & Campbell, Ltd., lifts; Hollis Bros. & Co., wood block flooring; and London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd., for "Phorpres" Fletton bricks.

The new buildings being erected in New Bridge Street by the Southern Railway Co. are by Messrs. North Robin & Wilsden, architects, of Maddox Street. The whole of the floors are being executed by Messrs. Self Sentering Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., 112 Cannon Street, E.C.4.

NORMANTON.—The governors of the Normanton Grammar School have prepared a scheme for extensions to cost £20,000.

RAWMARSH.—A ten-acre site at Rawmarsh is being purchased by the West Riding Education Committee for the erection of a new middle school.

ROYTON.—The County Architect, Mr. H. Littler, of 16 Ribblesdale Place, Preston, has submitted plans to the Crompton and Royton Education Committee for the erection of a proposed Central School. The school has been planned to provide accommodation for 412 scholars. The floors will be laid with concrete with a granolithic finish and with maple boards on an asphalt bed. The building will be heated by means of a low-pressure hot water system and lighted by gas.

SHAW.—Messrs. Simister & Taylor, architects, 29 Queen Street, Oldham, are preparing plans for the erection of new bank buildings at the corner of St. Mary's Gate and Rochdale Road, for Williams, Deancons Bank, Ltd., of Manchester.

PRESTON.—Mr. G. H. Broadbent, architect, 12 Guildhall Street, has prepared plans for the Fylde Industrial Co-operative Society, Ltd., for alterations to their premises at Wesham and equipment for a butcher's shop, contract not yet let.

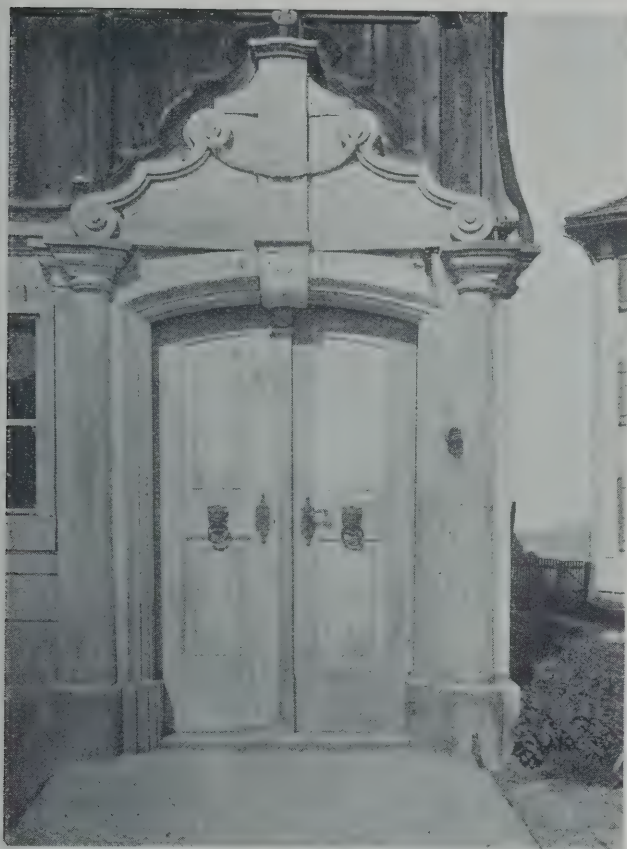
WAKEFIELD.—The City Council have decided that the existing maternity hospital should be enlarged and improved at an estimated cost of about £5,000. Plans will be prepared by the City architect.

WESHAM.—Mr. F. Harrison, architect, 30 Willow Street, Accrington, has been appointed by the Fylde Board of Guardians to prepare a scheme for the provision of additional accommodation at their institution.

CONTENTS.

Art in Modern Life	PAGE	303	Northern Architectural Association	PAGE	311
Modern Interior Domestic Architecture	306	Some Thoughts on Modern Architecture	313		
The Architecture Club	309	General News	317		

Art in Modern Life.



DOOR, DATING 1769 IN TROGEN, APPENZELL.

Photo by Eric Steiger, Architect, St. Gall.

Writers on Art frequently allude to the importance of the supposed place it occupied in ancient and mediæval life, the favoured illustrations being Grace Rowe, the mediæval period generally, and that of the Italian Renaissance. They are prone to argue that what has been may be again, that there is no real reason why the modern world should not emulate the standard attained in the past, but in these assumptions we believe they fall into error. Without being pessimistic it is doubtful whether Art can ever be so relatively important as it was in the past for the fundamental reason that the mental range of mankind's activities has enormously increased and is still increasing, and because of that increase there is a relatively smaller stream of activity in any direction except those which are necessary to the existence, comfort or pleasure of mankind.

If we eliminate the possibility of a future socialistic state controlling and giving employment and directing the expenditure of that wealth of the community which it is said would exist under its regime, we have no concrete body which could emulate the building activities of ancient Egypt or of Rome, we have no religious organisation which has a power comparable with that of the mediæval church, we have no craft traditions, and lastly we have no organised standard of knowledge or taste which is capable of influencing the direction and scope of our building operations.

Our prominent architects are men whose work shows an individual rather than a general trend, and though we can discern some tendency to look upon the work of the eighteenth century as a foundation to follow generally, we have still among our ranks many who are attracted by the lure of mere eclectic methods and standards. There are many who would discard the time-honoured precedents of the past, a parallel to the preference for a skeleton rather than the flesh contours of the human form.

The modern world has many pre-occupations, but among its delights we should say that the delight in rapid motion by motor or by flying stood almost first. Invention has to a large extent altered our ideas of relative terrestrial space, and with that change man's



DOOR, DATING 1752, IN TROGEN, APPENZELL, SWITZERLAND

Photo by Eric Steiger, Architect, St. Gall.

attachment to special localities has been very much lessened.

While great sums of money are expended on public buildings and those devoted to commercial uses, the inclination to spend largely for domestic purposes hardly now exists.

Different localities in England were two hundred years ago farther apart in fact than are any European countries now, and who in the present day could feel any certainty that his descendants for two or three generations would be satisfied to live in any house he built?



DOOR IN TROGEN, APPENZELL, SWITZERLAND.

Photo by Eric Steiger, Architect, St. Gall.

What affects building affects other forms of art. If we leave out of consideration those who collect pictures as they occasionally collect old editions, and



DOOR IN SPEICHER, APPENZELL, SWITZERLAND.

Photo by Eric Steiger, Architect, St. Gall.

belong to the *genus* collector, most of us are satisfied in our houses with a few old prints or slight sketches. Here and there a valuable modern picture will be bought, but such purchases are few and far between. Methods of reproductions are so greatly improved and developed that we can surround ourselves with close reproductions of the best works of past ages at a trifling outlay, which would often not cover the cost of some impressionist's slight sketch.

We do not believe that people care for beauty less than they ever did, but they certainly have more to distract their attention and please them than they had in the past, and that distraction and pleasure does not make for the increase of the architect's clients or the painter's patrons. America is often instanced as a country which shows its appreciation of the arts, and



DOOR IN TEUFEN, APPENZELL, SWITZERLAND.

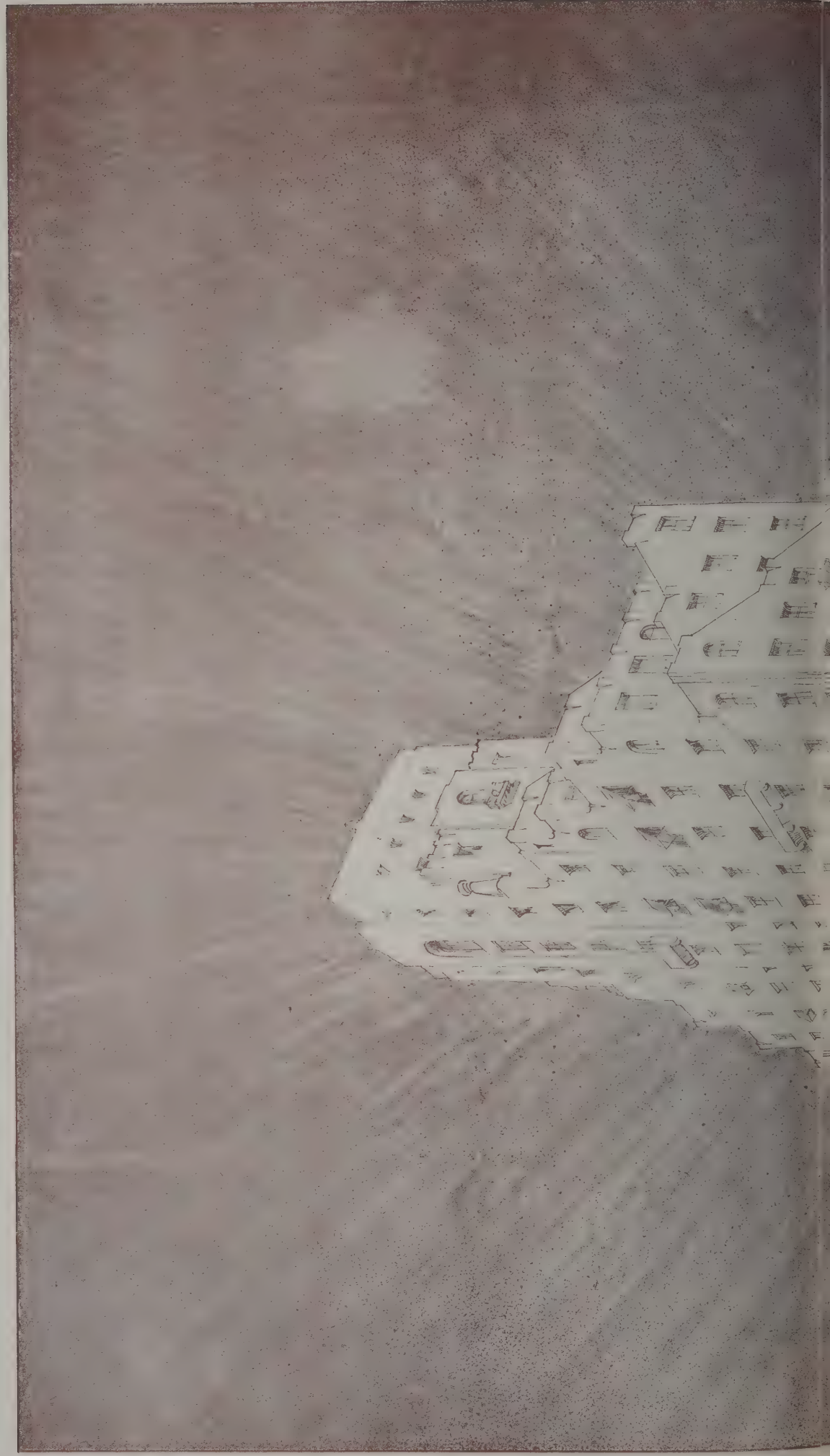
Photo by Eric Steiger, Architect, St. Gall.

particularly of that of architecture, but a close study of the American architectural press will convince us that their mammoth buildings owe their origin to clever financial manipulation. They are built of steel and concrete, but no less are they an outcome of a carefully-thought financial problem. Clever American architects, who have usually mastered the financial considerations on which such buildings depend as surely as they do on their scientific construction, have been allowed as a minor accessory to give their conceptions architectural qualities. But to believe that these buildings indicate the architectural understanding of a people is to believe what is manifestly incorrect.

And just as the right understanding of the processes of building finance are indispensable to the architect, who has to carry out great commercial buildings, so will it become more and more necessary for those who have to control urban development to understand the principles of town planning and development. The practical aspect of such study will open out archi-

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THE ARCHITECT, OCTOBER 30th, 1925.





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SKETCH DESIGN FOR DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, LONDON.

E. FRAZER TOMLINS, ARCHITECT.

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VARDALA BARRACKS GATE, IN THE DITCH.

VALETTA, MALTA.

FROM PHOTOS KINDLY LENT BY MR. DAVIS OF MESSRS. MEWES & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.

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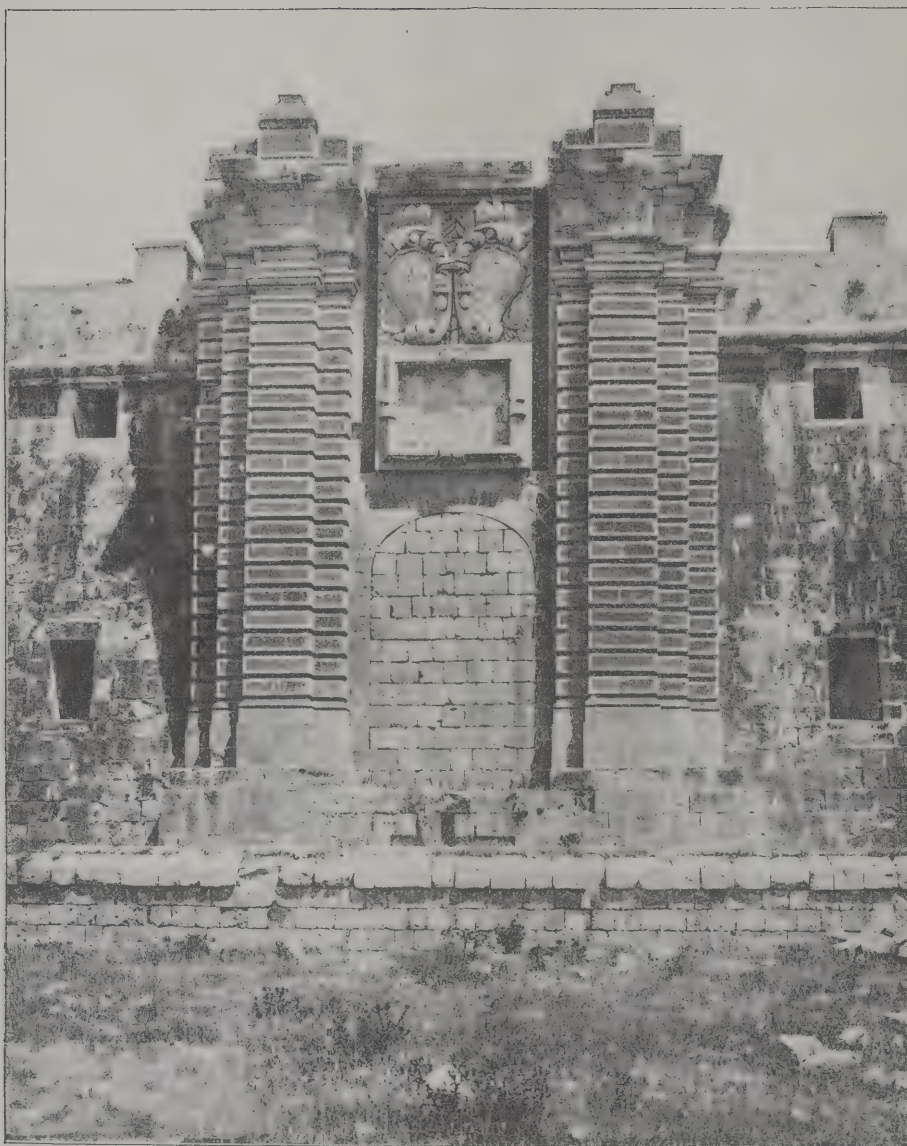
DUM THRAGES GATEWAY.

VALETTA, MALTA.

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GATE—COTTONERA LINES UNDER ST. CLEMENT
AND COTTONERA DITCH.

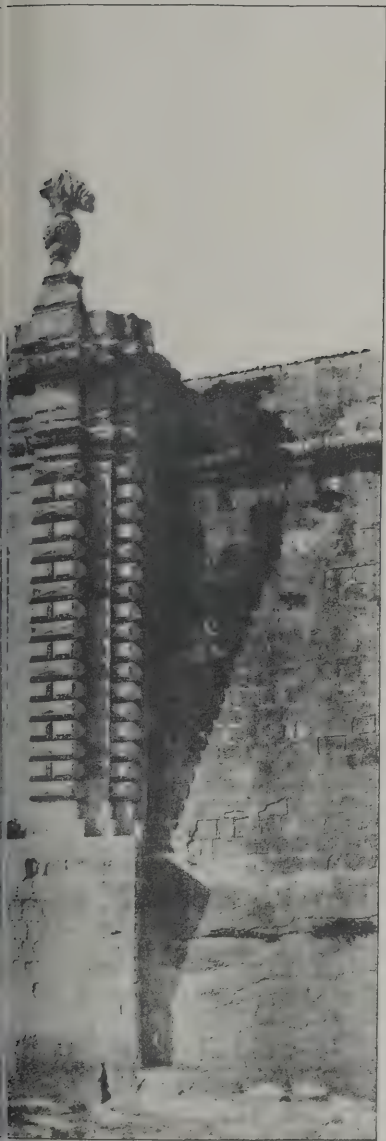


COTTONERA 3

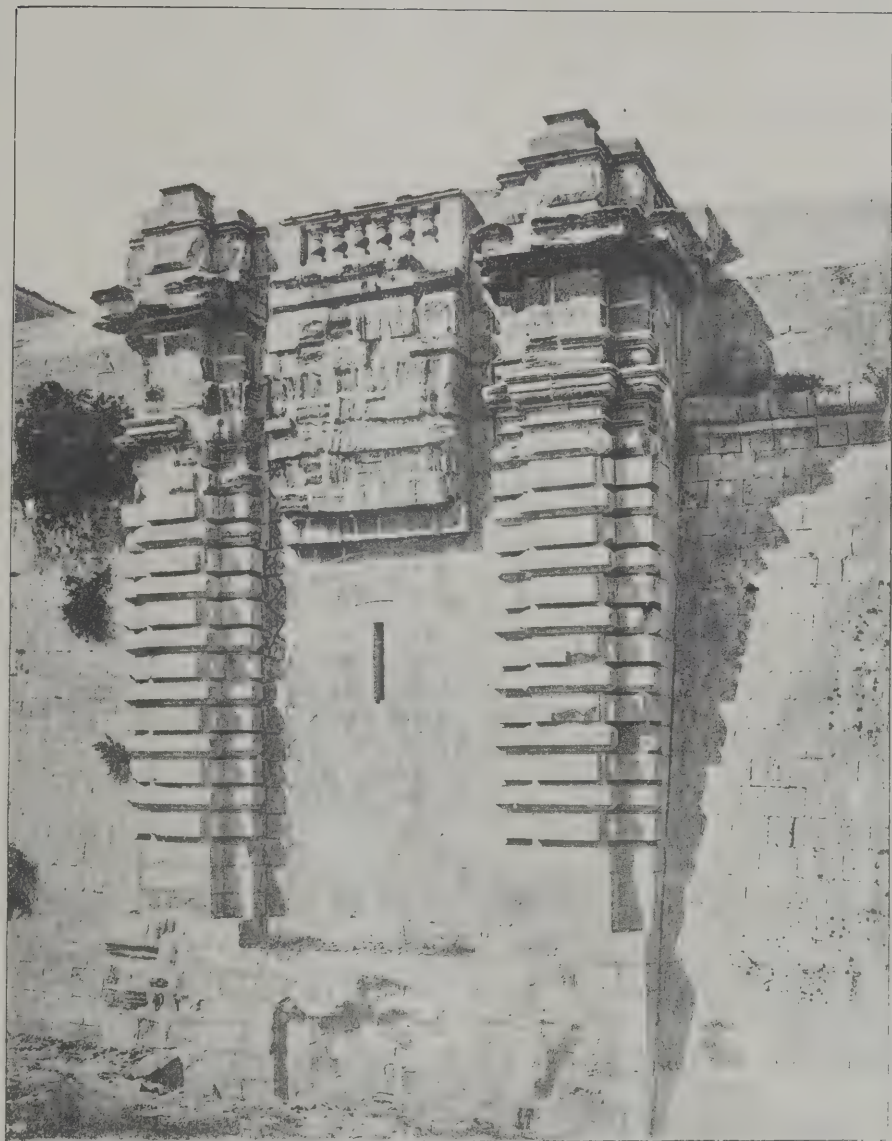
VALE

FROM PHOTOS KINDLY LENT BY MR. J. A. VALE

MBER 30th, 1925.



LOOKING SOUTH.



INK- PHOTO" W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C. 4

GATE UNDER FORT SALVATOR, COTTONERA LINES.

TA.

RS. MEWES & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.

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tectural possibilities, but we must clearly understand that it will be practical necessity which may bring architectural possibilities in its train, and not a growing love and appreciation of architecture which will do so. In a word architectural art is not *per se* a necessity for the public, but if in dealing with the problems of modern life the architect can give the public that help he will create both work and opportunity for himself. The housing question owes its origin not to a public desire to improve the appearance of the country, but to the fact that houses of some sort were wanted and devices for their provision have become dear to the politician. It is indeed questionable whether, despite an occasional success, the average group of twentieth-century small houses are aesthetically very much in advance of their Victorian prototypes, whether our unlovely suburbs built on congested sites beyond which was the unspoilt country is not aesthetically preferable to a scattering of brick cubes over the face of unspoilt country districts. The public and the legisla-

ture, which alike insist on a higher hygienic standard, are curiously indifferent about the further steps which must be taken if we are not to create further desecration of the natural beauties of the country.

We have previously raised the issue of the necessity for the training of the public in matters of building and of architecture in our schools, an issue which should be pressed by every great architectural body, for in it alone we see a possibility of remedying the damage which is being done because of the pre-occupation of the public with other matters. Nor need we take too seriously the optimism of those who argue that because our daily press occasionally notices some building which would have been passed over without notice twenty years ago, the public are more interested in architecture. We should be rather inclined to think that at least some of the reasons which prompt this greater interest may be found to be financial and business ones, the connection being often one which it is possible to trace.

Our Illustrations.

SKETCH DESIGN FOR DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, LONDON. E. FRAZER TOMLINS, Architect.

VARDALA BARRACKS GATE IN DITCH, DUM THRAGES GATEWAY. GATE, COTTONERA LINES, UNDER ST. CLEMENT AND COTTONERA DITCH, GATE UNDER FORT SALVATOR, COTTONERA LINES, COTTONERA GATE, LOOKING SOUTH. VALLETTA MALTA.

From Photos kindly lent by MR. DAVIS, of MESSRS. MEWES & DAVIS, Architects.

Notes and Comments.

The Super Air Station at Croydon.

The scheme for the erection of a super air station at Croydon has at last taken a definite form. We read that the contracts for the foundations have been placed and involve an expenditure of £225,000. The profession will regret that an open competition was not organised for the scheme, which would undoubtedly have aroused considerable interest. Other commercial aerodromes will have to be erected in other parts of the country. The progress and development of the Croydon scheme will be watched by many. Mr. Frank Heaven, F.R.I.B.A., architect, designed a scheme for an air station so long ago as 1913 which was published in one of the professional publications.

The Engineers' Club Dinner.

The Right Hon. Winston Churchill (Chancellor of the Exchequer) was the principle guest at the Engineers' Club Dinner held at the Savoy Hotel on Friday, the 23rd inst. The dining room decorations were illustrative of a bygone day. The colour scheme endeavoured to minimise the elaborate ornamentation of the walls, but the modern dance hall electric light fittings were quite out of place, and whilst in themselves they were good they did not harmonise with the other characteristic features of the room. Mr. Churchill set a very good example to public men, his speech did not dwell on the gloomy side of things, but neither did he give the impression of being a rollicking optimist. Those who heard his remarks in connection with the difficult question of the coal industry were able to take heart in the knowledge that the Government were endeavouring to explore every channel to establish a lasting peace between the different conflicting interests. He further touched on the foreign influences that were at work in our midst, specially so in industrial centres and amongst the workers of this country. His remarks were loudly applauded and his speech, though interrupted on several occasions, on the whole inspired confidence. Sir T. Harris Spencer and Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Trenchard responded to

the toast "Success to British Engineering," proposed by Major-General Sir Philip Nash.

New Methods of Shuttering Competition.

The Ministry of Health Committee on new methods of house construction in an interim report have awarded Mr. R. L. Bendall, of Bournemouth, the first prize of £250 in connection with the competition recently organised. The report issued continues by stating that they are satisfied that the system submitted by Mr. Bendall is the best sent into the competition, but it must not be regarded as superior to some already in use or published in the Press and therefore ineligible for the competition.

The New Regent Street.

The President of the Architectural Association, Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Reudel, made some very strong remarks in respect to the architectural character of Regent Street. "A Monstrosity in Stone. A display of sheer ignorance, vulgar and ridiculous. A typical example of the English haphazard school of architecture." The President further is reported to have told a representative of one of our leading evening papers that it is the considered opinion of English architects that Regent Street should now be blown up.

The new Regent Street has supplied many speakers with a topic for general condemnation and has in consequence become rather a time-worn subject. Whilst one regrets the departure of the Regent Street of the eighties, surely in justice to everybody concerned, it would be fairer to reserve drastic judgment until the whole is finished. If the reconstruction of Regent Street truthfully presented a wonderful opportunity to the architectural profession why did they not grasp the same? Who is to blame for this omission? Instead of attributing the fault to the whole school of English architecture it surely would be better to come out with a clear statement of all the circumstances that have governed this reconstruction and thus permit the formation of fair and reasoned judgment.

Modern Interior Domestic Architecture.



AN EARLY 18TH CENTURY COUNTRY-MADE DRESSER IN OAK AND ELM.
"Time, Taste and Furniture."

Many books have appeared since the war on furniture, old and new. Under the title of "Time, Taste and Furniture" Mr. John Gloag, the author of "Colour and Comfort," etc., has written a book which is intended to be a guide for those who are furnishing. The volume is well arranged and has been published by Messrs. Grant Richards at 12s. 6d. net, a price that places it within reach of everyone who seriously desires some help in this really difficult matter. The first part deals with examples

produced from early Tudor times to the decline and fall of design in the third decade of the nineteenth century. Part two is concerned with the furniture that has been designed and made during the lifetime of William Morris and after. For those who study the subject deeply the Victorian period with all its seeming faults presents no mystery, but in the light of our present development must be viewed as the very early state of an awakening interest on the part of an almost entirely new community in things artistic.

If one reflects on the development of most individuals one must recognise that in a great many instances the early efforts are frequently incorrect and stupid. In the matter of artistic education a nation's taste may need to pass through much tribulation before the general masses of the community reach a standard which recognises, in a decided manner, a defined style or mode of expression. The general tendency at the present time in respect to all furniture and internal decorations points unmistakably in the direction of simplicity of mass, form and line. Each piece of furniture must be of real use, ornamental in its own character and shape, and independent of accessory embellishments. To mistake elaborate ornamentation for richness and beauty is a grave error, and one from which many furniture designers are only just turning aside.

A great advance has undoubtedly been made since the war, and it is a very good sign to find "The Cabinet Maker and Complete House Furnisher," the leading organ of the furniture industry, taking an enlightened attitude in the matter. Recently a leading article of considerable merit appeared in the journal, and in the last issue a Review of Messrs. C. H. James and F. R. Yerbury's new book "Modern English Homes and Interiors," written in such a manner as to leave little doubt in the minds of any reader that the need for an awakening is urgent, and that architects



A DRESSING TABLE IN ENGLISH WALNUT. By PETER WAALS.
"Time, Taste and Furniture."



INTERIOR IN ALBION STREET, W.2. G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

all over the country would undoubtedly support any enterprise that set out to create specimens of merit.

The reason for the increasing pressure on the part of the public is not difficult to discover. Since the war the domestic service problem has reached an acute stage. Architects have and are applying their skill in reducing household work to an absolute minimum. The first ardour for the elimination of everything which was not absolutely necessary and the retention of which created labour has passed. The public desire to be surrounded by things beautiful and they demand to have placed before them in a general way furniture which in itself is beautiful, decorative and useful. The atmospheric conditions are to-day entirely different to those prevailing in 1900. The last ten years of the last century produced some fogs, the like of which have never been known since.

It is needless to recount the factors that produced those fogs; it is sufficient to state that they no longer exist. Coal fires in open grates of modern pattern render the possibility of a smoke-filled room unthinkable. Gas lighting has improved beyond recognition, and electric illumination is now almost within the reach of everybody. The kitchen is changed. The old dirt creator has passed away, and in its place models have been invented that inspire pleasure, rather than dread. The gas stove of twenty-five years ago has naturally taken a back place. To-day the cooker incorporates every thinkable con-

venience in a very simple design. The gas fires of early days have given place to noiseless stoves of artistic appearance. Electricity is also being utilised for heating and cooking and all manner of devices for the simplification of domestic service. During the last twenty-five years the dirty atmosphere of London and other big centres has gradually been made cleaner, so much so as to enable the present generation to give full voice to its delight in delicate colourings for wall surfaces, paint work, and furnishings. In times gone by rooms contained alcoves, bow windows, inglenooks, and all kinds of recesses. Many clients preferred rooms of an irregular shape, whilst in a few cases the above features are still demanded, the majority strive to secure plain straightforward rectangular rooms. Casement windows have now been before the public for many years and their ever increasing use has also had a marked influence on the decorative and furnishing ideas. Curtains heavy and long are quite the exception. The casement window has reduced objectionable draughts, thus the large screens that were once so very necessary are now seldom to be seen. Only really good pictures adorn the walls. The craze for beplastering all available space with picture postcards, and photographs in frames or racks has also departed. Plain wall surfaces in pleasing tints, colours which brace or quieten the jaded nerves, are in more frequent use. The natural result of all this removal of ornamental nicknacks is that the furniture has to supply

not only the comfort and utility purposes of former times, but must satisfy the client's longing for beautiful forms and graceful lines. Whilst the rooms were decorated with a patterned wall paper, and many pictures, vases, lamps and bric-a-brac attracted the attention, downright ugly furniture was not conspicuous. To-day, bereft of all the side shows, these pieces must stand out in all their frightfulness. It is difficult to realise what a tremendous opportunity lies before the enterprising furniture manufacturers. Every home must pass through the process of reconstruction. The lack of domestic servants has changed the whole outlook, and in consequence the furniture which has served the immediate past will not serve the new conditions.

It may be that the architect in the Victorian times was not permitted to exercise his educated taste in the matter



A WARDROBE IN ENGLISH WALNUT.

By PETER WAALS.
"Time, Taste and Furniture."

of the selection of the suitable furniture for each room. But it is unthinkable that the profession as a body ever designed houses without paying careful consideration to the influences of the furniture. For many years past it is a recognised fact that the architect has been keenly interested in the production of new designs for furniture. And this fact is so much appreciated by the building public, that in the majority of cases the architect exercises a very important function in the final selection of the furnishings. It is, after all, common logic, that the individual who has designed a room has had a very decided mental picture of the same completely furnished.

The mass production of modern furniture to meet the new conditions cannot long be delayed. In the meantime architects are seeking and have found manufacturers who possess the vision and foresight, and are willing to work from designs supplied them by the architectural profession, well knowing that these designs will form the basis of the new movement.

H. W. M.-K.

New School of Modern Art for Architects and Others.

Many will be interested to learn that a School for Modern Art has been founded and opened under the title of The Grosvenor School of Modern Art, 33 Warwick Square, London, S.W.

We have no doubt that the influence of Mr. Frank Rutter and others who have been appointed as lecturers will maintain the modern ideas of art.

Of special interest to members of the architectural profession is the open invitation to attend the life classes whenever they feel disposed to do so. The difficulty of paying fees for irregular attendance is surmounted by the fact that the Art School has arranged the issue of a booklet of coupons which enables the irregular student to suit his own convenience entirely. A reception room is included in the scheme where patrons may invite their friends and, if desirable, entertain them in a well appointed dining room which adjoins. Students may take their meals at the school, and an examination of the prices will disclose their reasonable character.

Correspondence.

Registration.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Under the above title a letter appeared in THE ARCHITECT of to-day's date. It mentioned the "recent establishment of an Association of Architects and Surveyors," and in order not to confuse your readers I take this opportunity to dissociate my own organisation, the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants, from the former.

Major H. Barnes, your contributor, refers to an "Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors," with which the A.A.S.T.A. has no connection.

The attitude of the A.A.S.T.A. towards this new organisation is expressed in the following paragraph which appeared in a recent number of "The Keystone."

"The passion for creating new organisations in the architectural and surveying professions is one that needs severe restraint. We hear that efforts have been made at Croydon to form a new organisation for Auctioneers and Surveyors. We also hear of a new group which aspires to be an 'Incorporation of Architects and Surveyors.' If these misguided efforts really obtain support they can only succeed in confusing and disturbing the steady progress now being made by established bodies. But they are not likely to obtain much support, for those who desire protective organisation will prefer that which is offered by a body of established repute, and those who do not desire co-operation will not be interested in these independent movements of unknown origin."—Faithfully yours,

JOHN MITCHELL,
General Secretary,

Association of Architects, Surveyors and
Technical Assistants.

October 23, 1925.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

OCTOBER 30, 1875.

THE NEW YORK HOTELS.

Mr. James Harrison, superintendent of rates and surveys for the New York Board of Underwriters, has recently examined the hotels in that city. In the course of his report he says:—"Of the 69 hotels, 24 have frame Mansard roofs, 39 have wooden cornices, 35 have unsafe gas brackets, 25 have unsafe steam pipes, 20 have unsafe flues or fireplaces, 49 have unsafe laundries or drying-rooms, 51 have uncovered lights in basements or wine cellars, 25 have repair shops in the buildings, 32 have unprotected boilers, 26 open elevators. Stairways are all open. Thirty-three of these hotels have four of these several defects. Not one hotel exists of this number but has one or more of these defects. I scarcely need call attention to the fact that these buildings range from five to seven storeys in height, with tortuous passage-ways or halls, confusing to strangers under the most favourable circumstances, difficult of access to our fire department, and but few of them provided with appliances for extinguishing a fire, while the sparse provisions that are made would in most instances be useless, having no organised body to use them in case of emergency. We are told that these buildings are carefully watched night and day by competent persons. A sad experience has taught the fire underwriters of New York the fallacy of placing entire dependence upon watchmen, however careful and trustworthy. I submit to you whether a danger removed is not preferable to a danger watched or guarded, however carefully? The corrections of many of these dangerous elements are clearly within the power of the owners or occupants. Our surveyors can only advise; no official power is delegated to them. The general reply to their suggestions is: 'There is no necessity for us to spend this money while we can procure as much insurance as we want at satisfactory rates.' The present building law is not retroactive, and can only affect such buildings as are at present in course of construction or alteration, or may hereafter be erected."

THORNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.—A further extension of the Broadway sewer has been found necessary in consequence of the rapid building developments by the Hatfield Main Colliery Co., tenders for which will shortly be invited. The engineers are W. H. Radford & Son, of Nottingham.

The Architecture Club.

Exhibition at the R.I.B.A. Galleries, Conduit Street, W.



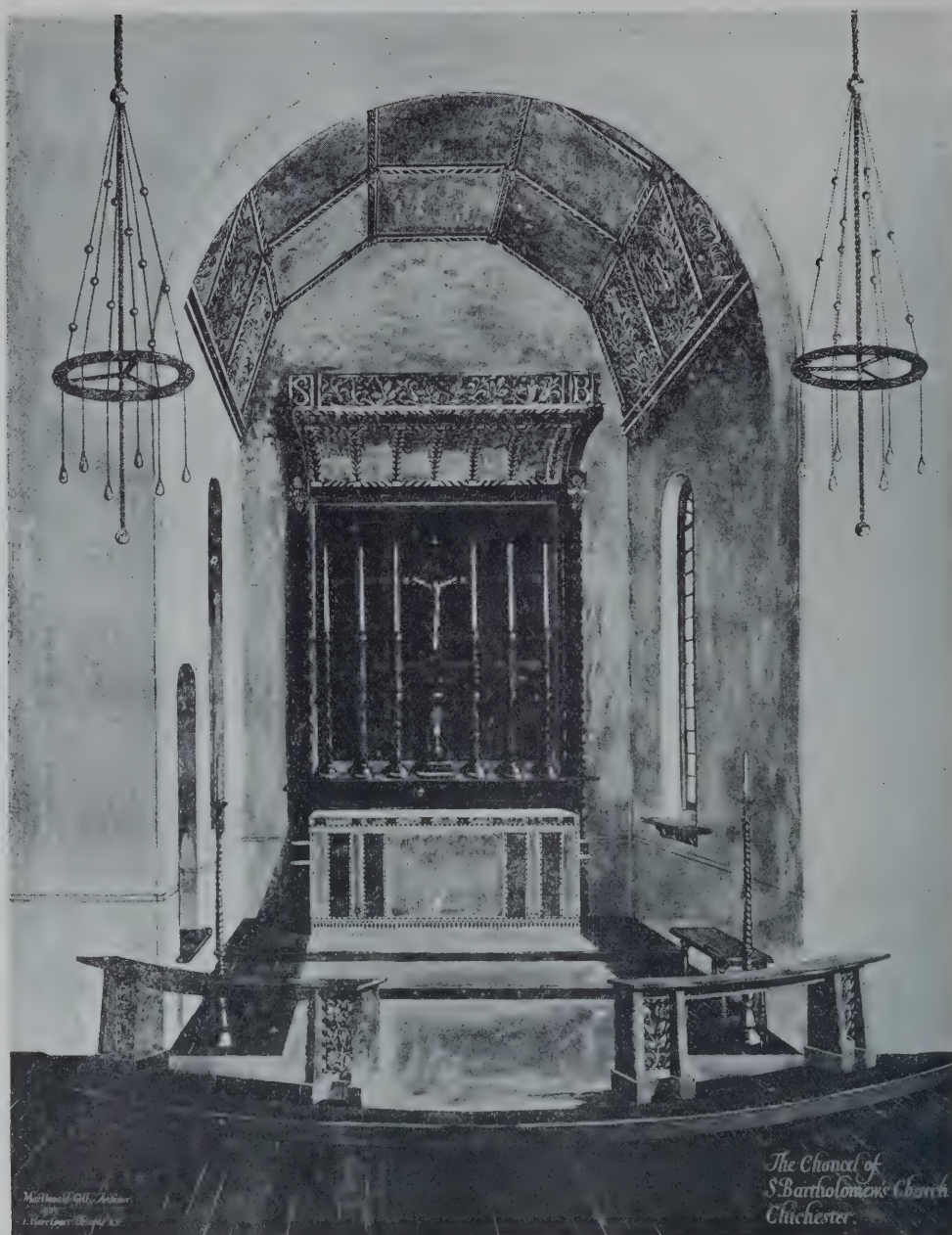
FLATS, 2 MANSFIELD STREET, W.1. MESSRS. WILLS & KAULA, FF.R.I.B.A., Architects.

This is another opportunity where one may reiterate the fact that it is far easier to criticise than to select and arrange an exhibition. Those who visit the Galleries naturally have no idea of the quality of the work that has been rejected by the hanging committee; whether they have been harsh or lenient in their treatment cannot be estimated. Judging from the general trend of affairs and the professional interest taken in this exhibition, a fair estimate of the proportion of rejects with the successful might place the figures that one in every four of those submitted has been rejected. Nearly sixty non-members have been successful with 128 exhibits, which it must be admitted is a very liberal proportion out of 306 pictures and models shown. The inclusion of the architectural sketches and decorations must be considered as an experiment that has failed. Those who have been successful under this heading have secured the same by virtue of their individual merit. The whole exhibition must be regarded, with certain exceptions, as rather dull and uninteresting. The general character of the show contributes little towards educating the public.

The exhibition illustrates the fact that the hanging committee have thought first of architecture and secondly of the public interest. At the Royal Academy the perspective drawings rendered in pleasing colours lend considerable charm and attractiveness to the exhibits. Public buildings, which must be outside the individual control, are rendered in such a manner as to command interest. But in the present exhibition we have mainly photographic pictures of buildings, many of which may be architectural

masterpieces when judged by the professional, but very lacking in general interest when viewed by the man in the street. The exhibition contains few mental stepping stones for the public. Interiors and gardens, which are easily understood and appreciated by nearly all classes, are poorly represented. To-day, with the subject of domestic accommodation uppermost in the minds of nearly everyone, the attachment of plans to the exhibits in a more general way would have added to the interest in the exhibition. Almost the first question which is asked by those interested in houses relates to the sizes of the rooms. As an exhibition of photographs the general verdict will undoubtedly be complimentary.

Messrs. Easton & Robertson, architects, have sent some clever photographs by Mr. Yerbury of their British Pavilion at the Paris Exhibition. Those who did not visit the French capital have only been afforded a rather poor opportunity of judging the merits of the British Pavilion. Nos. 180-182 will go far to remove any adverse opinions that may have been formed. Nobody can truthfully assert that the British Pavilion, as illustrated by these photographs, lacked originality and character. Nos. 187 to 192 illustrate Marlborough College Memorial Hall, by Mr. W. G. Newton, architect. The photographs were taken by Sidney Newbery, and grouped together in the central position they occupy the exhibit illustrates in a splendid manner the talent engaged. Four photographs illustrating St. Saviour's Church, Acton, by Mr. Edward Maufe, architect, Nos. 196 and 200-1, inspire a desire to visit the building and gain



THE CHANCEL OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, CHICHESTER. MACDONALD GILL, Architect.

a more comprehensive impression of what is a clever design. The exhibit of Mr. Oliver Hill, architect, occupy the centre space of the far end wall on the right as you enter the second gallery. Three photographs in the centre depict a house in Argylshire which has recently been completed. On the left, two characteristic photographs illustrate the thatched house at Knowle, Warwickshire, and house at Croyde, N. Devon; both are in picturesque style which will find many admirers. The dining hall, Churt Gate House, has afforded the client fine opportunities for furnishing, of which he has taken full advantage.

Amongst a goodly array of models those designed by Miss Ethel Swift for different architectural clients appeal to our taste as incorporating many advances in the art of producing effective models of buildings. Miss Swift has discovered a method by which trees are depicted in a naturalistic manner. Mr. W. Curles Green, A.R.A., architect, exhibits a model of the elevation of the new building for the London Life Association, Ltd., King William Street, E.C. Visitors are requested to gaze through a narrow slot at the base of a box and press an electric button. The model is well above the reach of juvenile members of the public, otherwise the electric current expenses might be rather heavy for the Architecture Club.

H. W. M.-K.

Competition News.

Messrs. T. R. J. Meakin & Son, Coventry, have been awarded the premium of £50 for the best design for carrying out the proposed extension scheme of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. The second placed design was by Mr. T. R. J. Meakin, and the third by Messrs. Hattrell & Wortley. There were ten competitors. The assessor was Mr. C. E. Bateman (Birmingham).

PROPOSED NEW SCHOOL, GOSPORT.

Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above competition because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

BOLTON.—The Corporation Housing Committee are to report as to the erection of further houses.—St. Mark's School is to be remodelled by the managers, whose plans have been approved by the Education Committee.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Westland Avenue, for Mr. A. S. Woods; 6 houses, Bromwich Street, for Mr. J. E. Paiton; extension to premises, Salop Street, for Messrs. Joshua Barber & Co., Ltd.; 6 houses, Captain's Clough Road, for Messrs. Leigh Bros.

BECONTREE.—The G.P.O. have acquired a site from the L.C.C. near Chadwell Heath, Becontree, for the erection of a post office.

CAMBERWELL.—Plans passed: pavilion, Red Post Hill, for Rally Lawn Tennis Club; store, 28 Naylor Road, for Mr. H. Bennett; messroom, 17 Howden Street, for Ivy Laundry, Ltd.

Northern Architectural Association, Session 1925-6.

Inaugural Address, October 21, 1925. G. Reavell, F.R.I.B.A., President.

MR. VICE-PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—When my predecessor addressed you last year he commented on the general outlook of the affairs of the country and ventured to see a glimmering of light on the horizon. It appears to have been a false dawn, and such "roseate hues" as there may have been "have faded fast away." Mr. Jones hoped something from the new Government, but time has shown that the remedy lies deeper than anything that kings or laws can achieve. The world was bled white by the awful catastrophe of 1914, so white that even yet the perspective is not long enough to let us see the magnitude of our loss, and the nation must do as an honourable man would do after an unexpected and crushing business reverse, take off its coat and patiently begin again at the bottom of the ladder. This is not a matter for one class only, but reaches from the director and the professor to the labourer and the youngest student, and is a matter of life and death for all.

Untold wealth was destroyed during those five years, and all that it represented simply does not exist, and therefore it cannot now be enjoyed.

I make no excuse for reverting to this subject. Until the world has saved up again it will have to do without many of those things that are not absolute necessities which have afforded interesting and profitable exercises to our profession in the past.

Meantime we must devote all our energies toward economy in planning and construction and make it clear to all the world that the services of a keen and experienced architect are something worth retaining.

While on the subject of work I may perhaps be allowed to say to my student friends that they have adopted a hard and exacting profession whose only reward in most cases can only follow close and untiring effort. They suffer from a new atmosphere which places far more stress on recreation and less on work than was the case 50 years ago. Then the home study was serious and prolonged and the interest in work was betokened by hot discussions on the styles and animated criticisms on the plates in the professional papers. Now the same papers are often very languidly turned over and our youths do not worry about the styles, while an architect I know who was remonstrating recently with a really gifted youth about wasted opportunities was told: "Well, but you see one cannot neglect one's golf." My imagination is not equal to guessing the result of such a reply in my student time.

I am not "crabbing" you. It is the whole trend of the times. Some of you are making a splendid fight against it, and I honour you for it. Believe me, the fight will give you lasting satisfaction—even at the sacrifice of the golf.

The outstanding event of the year, so far as we are concerned, has been the visit of the Royal Institute and Allied Societies to Newcastle in July. There have been many successful meetings in the history of the Institute, but on all hands it was willingly said that none surpassed the meeting here. As President, I was, as you know, officially congratulated on the organization, but I hastened at once to pass on the encomium to those who so ably helped me. I then mentioned by name Mr. McKellar, whose hand held all the strings; and if I now add the names of the Conveners of Committees I trust the members of these committees will consider themselves included, for where all worked so well it would be invidious to mention individuals.

The Propaganda Committee, under Mr. Dick, left nothing undone; the guide book was an excellent compilation, and the delightful design for the cover by Mr. McKellar was a general subject for admiration.

The Banquet and Reception Committee, under Mr. Jones, lived up to their convener's oft-repeated dictum: "If you do a thing of this kind at all you must do it properly;" and if "properly" were as literally construed in our specifications as it was by this Committee we should have a much easier time. It must not be forgotten in this connection

that it was largely owing to Mr. Jones's initiative that the Conference came North this year.

Mr. Errington's Excursions Committee may look back on their work with entire satisfaction.

Mr. Taylor's Hospitality Committee did equally well, and in spite of the coincidence of the meetings of another profession here suitable accommodation was found for all our visitors.

The programme arranged by Mr. Harrison's (may I couple Mr. Fenwick's name) Committee was a feature of the Conference, and the local songs and folk dances were very much enjoyed.

The House Committee also worked well, and Mr. Weightman and his colleagues may be well satisfied with the result.

The adoption by the City Council of the line of the proposed new street is a great event of the year. It must be a matter of satisfaction to this Association that the scheme of Mr. Burns Dick has become virtually the official scheme. It is no easy matter to drive a new road through an ancient city, and doubtless many technical difficulties will arise to worry the City Engineer, but they are safe in his capable hands. What does matter is that, instead of legislating from hand to mouth, frittering away money by a few thousands here and another few thousands there, paring down expensive frontages and eventually being little further forward, a comprehensive scheme has been adopted which will clear away a great deal of poor property, give a wide and direct thoroughfare from the new bridge to the North Road, afford valuable business sites, and in the end add enormously to the ratable value of the city. There are sure to be critics and cavillers. No doubt there were such in the days of Dobson and Grainger, but who in Newcastle to-day would question their wisdom and foresight?

Mr. Jones, Mr. Dick and myself are still serving with the Town Improvement Committee.

Out of this arises another matter. How far can we legislate as to the architectural character of the new frontages? This is a free country, and we are rightly apprehensive of the abuses of officialdom. We do not want a cast-iron uniformity, but we want to put it beyond the power of any individual to spoil this magnificent opportunity. We must certainly make better use of our chances than London has done in Regent Street.

The fusion of the Royal Institute and the Society of Architects, foreshadowed in Mr. Jones's address last year, has been completed. It is now the duty of all of us to strengthen the parent body and to help thereby more efficient education of the younger and more efficient administration by the older members of the profession.

In this connection I would utter a word of warning concerning a circular, which no doubt most of you have received, purporting to establish "The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors." It is issued under an obscure name, and not one single architect, obscure or otherwise, appears to be connected with the formation of this precious Association. It professes to give "degrees," but as for a time not stated these degrees do not require an examination and are to be had practically for the asking, plus your subscription, they will tend to make the recipients a laughing-stock. The ostensible reason for the formation of the Association is to protect practitioners who are not members of the R.I.B.A. when legislation is asked for to obtain registration. You may take it from me to begin with that the R.I.B.A. will not ask for anything that does an injustice to anyone who has previously been making his living by architecture or surveying, and you may be soundly assured that no British Legislature would pass such a Bill.

A new society would be detrimental both to those connected with and those detached from the Institute. Against the former it would rake in all sorts of people and give

them a quasi-professional standing which would be detrimental to genuine architects; against the latter it would, if successful, undo all that has been achieved during the past few years for the solidarity of the profession, and by its very success remove all chance of united professional progress. "United we stand, divided we fall." Let us as a profession speak through the Institute with a single voice and in matters of protection we shall have ten times the result and in matters of education immeasurably more. If you have guineas galore talk to our treasurer, but do not do worse than fritter them away by starting a new source of division.

During the year the discussion with the Quantity Surveyors and the Builders' Federation as to standard measurement of building works has proceeded rather slowly in the hands of the joint sub-committee. While on this subject I would point out that, whatever system is adopted, those architects who take out their own quantities should make it a point of honour to render them beyond reproach, avoiding vague clauses, loose description, excessive use of per cent. amounts and other faults of the idle or incompetent surveyor. If the quantity surveyor does it the architect can justly complain, if the architect does it one can only hear the thoroughly warranted growls of the builder, quite possibly mingled with sarcasm. There are some among us who are not above reproach; let us set our house in order in that respect.

A pleasing incident during the year has been the election of our very popular member and past president, Mr. T. R. Milburn, to a vice-presidency of the R.I.B.A. Mr. Milburn has a faculty for seeing the kernel of a subject under discussion very quickly and the gift of expressing his views thereon with point and lack of verbiage, valuable qualities that will be of great service to the profession in the exercise of his new dignity. There is but one higher honour the Institute can bestow; whether that, too, is to be Mr. Milburn's some day or whether he has set the pace for another, perhaps but a student here this evening, time alone can reveal.

Another matter that has been growing in interest during the last few years, particularly in the post-war period, is the training of young architects. The old system was for an aspirant to serve his articles with a practising architect, and it was a system that turned out a large number of good men. When the architect had a good sound practice a good architectural library and a disposition to help and advise the pupil, and he on his part was inclined to study and to burn a little of the midnight oil, the results were generally satisfactory, but, alas! in many cases pupilage was undertaken with little sense of responsibility on either side, and at the end of it an unlucky youth was turned out, to find that he was totally unqualified to undertake the duties of an architectural assistant. The most flagrant cases were those of the black sheep of the profession, whose sole interest was the collection of premiums and who filled their offices with victims. It is unfortunately true that this practice is still carried on by an unscrupulous minority. The trend of opinion now is strongly in favour of academical training of five years, in the last two of which part time is worked in an architect's office. It is not perfect. Nothing in this world is. It seems, however, the best attainable compromise, and responsible architects are now turning proffered pupils into this route. The result will be watched with keen interest. It should, however, not be forgotten that the profession is overcrowded, and it is cruelty to start a youth upon it unless there is a chance to equip him adequately for the struggle.

But if we go in for academical training we must keep in touch with the actual; if we get our heads in the air we must plant our feet on solid ground. Professor, principal and pupil alike must see that in the latter part of his training the student has ample opportunity to familiarise himself with real buildings. When we visited Seaton Delaval in July the query was forced upon one, "How would you set about it if you had to make this into a modern house, even if funds were not stinted?" This century would never endure the comfortless grandeur of Vanburgh. Modern conditions will not allow it. The team we have to

drive contains steeds quite undreamed of by our ancestors; steel construction, fire-resisting arrangements, heating appliances, ventilation, electric equipment, sanitation and hosts of other details must be welded into a compact whole, and can only be so welded by one who is familiar with actual modern problems.

Years ago a friend of mine was working in an atelier beside a young Frenchman, who called on him to admire his "projet." After a few notes of admiration my friend said, "But how the mischief are you managing those flues?" "Flues!" said the disgusted Frenchman; "flues! but zis is a composition." The retort may do in an atelier but not to assuage an irate client.

A certain brilliant designer who had much the same contempt for flues was invited by a revengeful client to dinner. Across the choking and tear producing atmosphere his hostess sweetly apologised for the discomfort, with a pointed reference to the cause, to which our hero calmly replied, "Oh, don't worry in the slightest; *that* doesn't matter; isn't it a jolly fireplace?" But, gentlemen, which of us has the superb audacity to carry it off like that? No, we shall be safer to worry out carefully beforehand our flues and floors, our roofs and drains, our hot and cold, our stairs and doors, and all the rest of it. And, seriously, gentlemen, we owe it to ourselves and we owe it to our clients to do so; those of us who went through the old-fashioned mill had it early hammered into us; those who go through the new training must keep it seriously in mind.

Another point to be kept in view is that while it is all for the good of the profession that adequate training should be ensured, there are those possessing the right qualities whose opportunities in early youth do not permit of them going through the regulation course. Napoleon conquered Europe with the aid of many Marshals who had to find their batons in a private soldier's knapsack; many professions have been adorned by men whose start was similarly handicapped, and we must see that such men have a fair chance. It is done in the law, and I feel sure it can be managed by us.

The last occurrence of the year has been the unveiling of the memorial to those of our number who gave their lives for their country in the Great War. We know their worth and appreciate their sacrifice, but beyond tendering the affectionate tribute of old colleagues I need not add to the words so fitly spoken at this afternoon's ceremony. I commend the tablet to your affectionate care. On your behalf I congratulate Mr. Weightman on the success of his restrained and balanced design. I think it is just what it ought to be. Mr. Weightman has generously added to our obligation by voluntarily treating this excellent work as a labour of love and declining to take any fee.

GLASGOW.—A site at Langlands is to be obtained for the erection of 66 houses.—The improvement of London Road, opposite Dalbeith Cementery, is proposed at a cost of £18,000.—A scheme has been prepared for widening the Great Western Road and the construction of a new road at Maryhill at a cost of £20,000.—The Health Committee recommend the following tenders in connection with the extension of Bellefield sanatorium: Messrs. David Purdie & Sons, Ltd., £8,263 16s. 8d., for wright work, etc.; Messrs. Baillie & Telfer, £669 19s. 8d., for glazier work; Messrs. William Walker & Sons, £1,921 12s. 10d., for slater work; Messrs. Hugh Twaddle & Son, £4,682 11s. 3d., for plumber work; Mr. Thomas Glaister, £4,035 7s. 5d., for plaster work; Messrs. Robert Brown & Son, Ltd., £1,623 9s. 6d., for tile work. The acceptance of the brick contract is under consideration.—The Health Committee recommend the following tenders in connection with the erection of a clinic at Elder Park: Messrs. Brodie, Campbell & Co., £2,534 2s. 2d., for constructing the centre with terazzo blocks; Messrs. M'Millan & Gould, £1,153 19s., for carpenter work; Messrs. Malloch, Ltd., £135 13s. 10d., for glazier work; Messrs. James Cuthbertson & Son, £445 2s. 3d., for slater work; Messrs. John Paterson & Co., Ltd., £502 2s. 8d., for plumber work; Messrs. William Tanner & Son, £250 14s. 5d., for plaster work; Mr. C. F. Howden, £244 4s. 8d., for heating installation; Messrs. Johnstone, Park & Co., £98, for electric lighting; Messrs. William Mason & Co., £233 17s. 8d., for gates and railings; Messrs. John Youden & Son, Ltd., £234 16s., for tile work.

Some Thoughts on Modern Architecture.

By P. L. Dickinson, F.R.I.A.I.



DOOR IN ALBION STREET, W.2
G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

The last few years have witnessed the publication of a great deal of literature, both in the technical press and elsewhere, on this subject. To architects it is one which is frequently lost sight of amidst the stress of a present-day practice. Still, it is a good thing at times to take stock of our possessions, and to see, if we can, where we are going and what forces are driving us there. It is specially useful, perhaps, to analyse what we, as designers, are contributing to the present, and how we shall be judged a hundred years hence. Since the war the architect's lot has been specially difficult. Not much work of importance has been done, and although many individual architects have prospered as regards income, there has been little contribution to the more serious side of building.

Let us go back a little and consider what was happening two or three generations ago. Round about 1860 a good many men imagined that they were really Gothic designers and could produce mediæval buildings by the process of combining a drawing board and text book—this with odd sketches thrown in as ingredients to the pudding. They had no hesitation in dealing with restoration, and had a touching confidence that they could make good the defects of the past. The amusing side of this was that these men always seemed to have seen the failure of previous generations. They went on working in a cheerful spirit and believed, and convinced others, that their work was sound and really Gothic. So much for human nature. What

these men did not realise was that they were not Gothic—that they could not be Gothic. Certain critics of the time, notably William Morris, realised that the fact of donning Chinese clothes did not make a man Oriental. Ruskin also had helped to clear the atmosphere, although, indeed, Ruskin was so dogmatic that he probably annoyed as much as he convinced. Ruskin, however, had a lot of sound notions in relation to architecture. He says in one passage where he is writing on Gothic architecture that "Its elements are certain mental tendencies of the builder, legibly expressed. It is not enough that it has the form if it has not also the power." Everybody nowadays will admit that he was right in this, and it was in this quality, or rather lack of quality, that the architects of the day failed. Let us think for a moment what is beauty in architecture. I admit this is a difficult question, and one full of pitfalls. There is an idea at the back of the minds of many designers, which too often becomes crystallised, that beauty lies within certain final and definite proportions. This, I think, is nonsense. Proportion of parts, no matter how closely they may be related, is a changing factor, and must be a changing factor as social needs make fresh demands. Evolution in architecture is a question of growth; gradual change is the keynote to success.

The real danger lies not in new combinations, not in fresh proportions, but in a meaningless crystallisation of certain combinations which have served their purpose under past conditions, but which do not serve any purpose to-day. Architecture must be radical, it must be liberal. Tory architecture is a dead architecture. I do not mean by this the ancient styles and the grammar of those styles should be ignored—far from it. The man who does not know his grammar is incapable of producing a fine piece of writing. Equally architecture must be grammatical. If it fails there, it fails everywhere.

According to most of the leading authorities, the Greeks, in their later stages, tried to arrive at definite dimensional rules and sought to relate every part and every other part by a system of fractions which anyone could understand, and which it was supposed would result in perfect proportion, regardless of surroundings. This was a ridiculous business, and for my own part I doubt very much if Greek builders really made such an attempt to lay down these rules. It is, of course, well known that certain classic writers gave definite rules, but I believe this was probably in the nature of a journalistic effort, and it is impossible to prove that the Greeks ever really adopted such a point of view. The late seventeenth and eighteenth century writers dogmatised, however, on these lines, and laid down definite proportions for each part of the classic orders. Indeed, they went further in many cases, and gave instructions for the disposition of the parts of every type of building of which they could think. It was this quality that made the Georgian period so formal and so unhomelike in many of the big examples of that period. In the quiet little buildings scattered over the country and the provinces, where these rules were not so well known, we find these absurd restrictions were not observed, and consequently in the smaller work of the time we often get the same vigour and charm of composition as is to be found in Gothic or early Tudor times.

Suppose a building—a Doric temple, for instance—consisted of a simple rectangular plan and one important elevation in the usual manner. It may be possible, presuming a universal construction of the same material in a number of similar sites, to make rules for the proportions, which should be carried out to give the best results. It may be possible, but the question of scale comes in also. The building copied from a really good original, but say double or half the size, would not necessarily be satisfactory. Indeed, it very often would not. The harmony might be quite different. It would certainly be necessary in such a case to modify some of the propor-

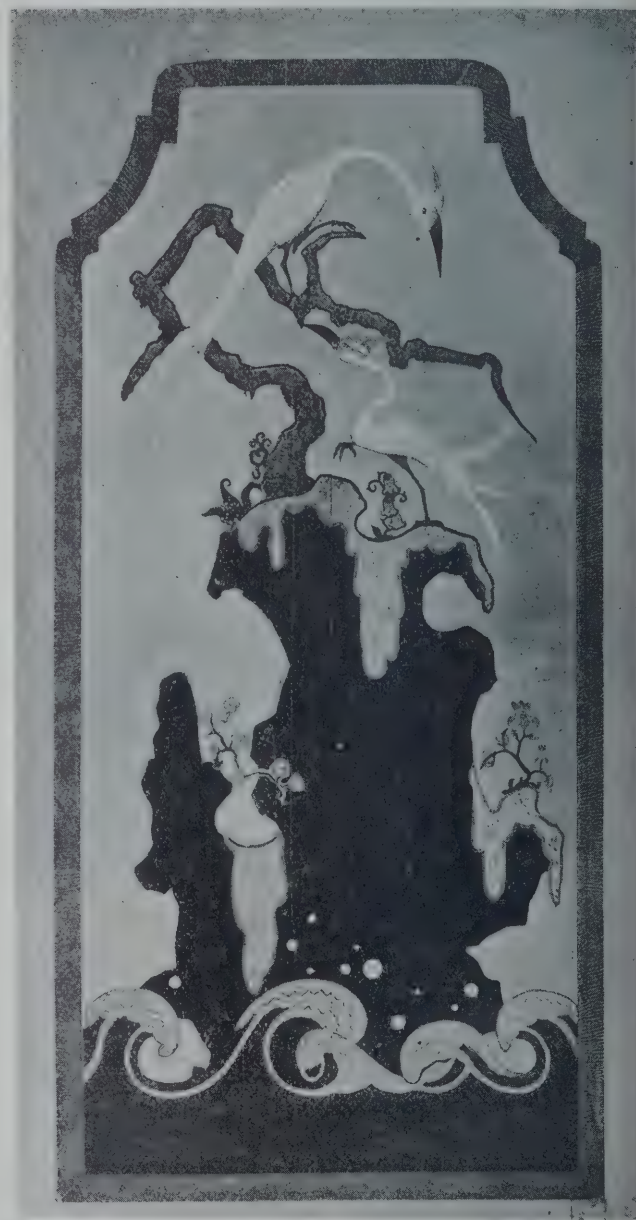


BEDROOM. G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

tions to get as good an effect as the original. Scale in this connection is very important indeed, a fact which is only too obvious, is little understood. A walk down any modern street is sufficient evidence of this to anyone who will take the trouble to look and think. Such simple rules of proportion, then, may be satisfactory enough if all buildings are to be designed under similar conditions, but of course the facts in practice are very different.

VIEW OF THE DRAWING ROOM.
G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

Buildings tend to get more complicated. New conditions arise, extra demands are made on the plan. New materials come into being, social conditions alter. In short, the skeleton is surrounded by a different flesh. New rules withhold. The design has got to be recast, reportioned, if it is to live, and not to be a mere cast-iron reproduction of something which was good enough in its day for earlier needs. Take the case of a definite proportion of a room. We know generally that an apartment about 30 feet by 20 feet is rather pleasant. Too much is often sacrificed to arrive at some such conventional idea. A room of 29 by 21 feet would be just as good. There would be no difference to the eye, but the plan may be, and often

DECORATIVE PANEL IN DRAWING ROOM.
G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

is, sacrificed for the sake of observing some such convention, especially in a building following strict classic rules. Proportion then means a mathematical relationship of parts, or it means a reasonable fitness of those parts as units in the whole. This is where the so-called classic rules go wrong, in my opinion. There is not a single so-called rule relating to the proportion or dimensions of the classic orders which cannot be broken advantageously in very many cases.

What is to be done when proportions for which we look are at variance with the rhythm of the design? This often happens, and happens even more to the experienced man than to the student, or one of less experience. It is a tragic difficulty, but, like all difficulties, it must be overcome,



ANTE-ROOM. G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

and that is where individual skill, taste and knowledge come in. To dogmatise on proportion is ridiculous. One has got to keep broad views, and a logical outlook on this matter, if one is going to avoid the many pitfalls in the way. Other factors operate also in this difficult question of design, such as control of detail. All these contribute to the complexity of the problem which the architect has to solve. A stirring business indeed, and one that should call forth the best that is in us. Is there any ultimate beauty, no matter what the medium may be, except in the expression of a temperament in such a way that it is received by others in a manner to cause a knowledge of the vision of the first, to be received by the latter? Does not this appear to be probably about as near as one can get to the definition of the beauty of art? It may not be so: I do not dogmatise, but only suggest.

Many present-day men are developing modern architecture on logical and satisfactory lines. The arbitrary styles of the past are rapidly losing their grip, and people are working much more on the lines of the best classic or mediæval periods. What were the qualities of these periods? To show a lack of self-consciousness was the keynote. Sites were generally accidental. There was little striving or posing, as was so evident in buildings of a short time ago, and little of the deliberate effort towards refinement which was so marked a feature of the Neo-grec school. Deliberate refinement may be a dangerous thing when it comes to bricks and stone. A good deal of famous scholarly detail which looks well enough in a fully rendered drawing may be rather effeminate in an actual building. We have all seen numerous examples of this. I would rather myself see a tendency towards over-emphasis than over-refinement, as the latter may give an effect of degeneracy.

Decoration at present is in an amazing state of confusion, and it is not easy to think clearly about it. I mean by decoration as it is dealt with by the best architects and

craftsmen of to-day, not as practised in the rather extreme form which one can consider degenerate, as is the vogue in many domestic interiors to-day. This type of decoration—I mean the sort in which wall papers or colour schemes, fabrics and curtains, and carpets, are changed every few months—is not a serious contribution to architecture, and can be ignored, although, indeed, it no doubt has some influence. The second-rate society papers are bad offenders in this connection, and give a great deal of information to suburban homes which is obviously supplied by persons without training. This kind of artificial taste is a rotten thing, and is perhaps the symbol of decadence; at best it is a temporary affliction. Indeed, we live in difficult times, times which tend toward extremes in all social matters, and those who are engaged on serious creative work need all their common sense and, indeed, sense of humour to pull them through. In a more serious aspect of decoration the great fault, to my mind, at present lies in the dangerous use of conventionalised form. Indeed, we are almost as bad as the eighteenth century in this respect. Ornament can be something better than rows of meaningless units repeated *ad nauseam*, and without reason behind them. Printed wall-papers, stupid enough in rooms without pictures, but absolutely revolting in rooms with pictures, are still very much to the fore, especially in the smaller houses. In these days, where good colour washes are so easily and cheaply obtained, the use of patterned paper is entirely unjustified.

What could be more irritating than to see a spray of roses or other pattern cut by the line of the door or window? If patterned paper must be used, it should be used pictorially in panels, and a pattern of such a type used which would be complete and self-contained inside the boundaries of that panel. To turn to a more hopeful aspect, it is very obvious that many of our recent buildings of a monumental type show a fine tendency towards simple massing, and a



VIEW OF THE DRAWING ROOM. G. G. WORNUM, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

thoughtful use of the refined detail that is very encouraging. It is curious how old-fashioned the buildings of even twenty years ago look to-day, and in most cases how unsatisfactory their details. I mean here the more important buildings, town halls, offices, etc., of a generation ago. I think this attitude towards the buildings of that time is something more than a mere change of fashion—I believe it is that our generation, largely as a result of the school systems of education, is more logical and less inclined to follow blindly the methods of the late Renaissance.

It is doubtful, however, if we shall get any real improvement in general work—smaller houses, shops, etc.—of provincial towns until there is more interest on the part of the general public in architecture. It is very notable that a great deal of really good, simple domestic work is going on, and with the continued improvement in the standard of education it is nearly certain that the provincial architect of the future will have a far higher standard of design than has been the case in the past.

I am not one of those who believe in the possibility of a new style, in the sense that the thirteenth or late seventeenth century had a style in which every building of the time was erected. This seems to me impossible in England at any rate, whatever America may achieve, as the demands of civilisation in this country are too diverse to allow of such a thing coming about. The Renaissance was a self-conscious movement, and it seems that all architecture must be so from now on. I do feel, however, that we have got to the state of mind wherein we can be more selective, and reject features of the past which have ceased to be of value, and design with more regard to the proper use of modern material and the wholesome union of interior and exterior. If we do bad work nowadays, it is from one of two causes—either we are ill-educated for our jobs, or we are too lazy to think out clearly what we are driving at. That we can do good work is perfectly clear, and there is no reason why the next two or three generations

should not produce as good buildings, as vigorous as have been erected at any period in the past. We shall not do this by following grooves. We shall not do it without study. Such improvements can come by clear thinking, rejection of what we believe to be useless, and by hard work. By such means the general standard will, I believe, be improved. The right line to follow is evolution, and not revolution.

The illustrations in this article are taken from photos of a house in the West End, recently re-decorated by Mr. G. G. Wornum, architect. By the aid of the application of coloured printed papers, assisted by hand painting, many charming and unique effects have been designed. We published recently illustrations of the Royal Golf Links Hotel Dance Hall, Cromer, and the Derby Dance Hall, where Mr. Wornum introduced similar decorative methods with success.

ROTHERHAM.—Col. Knight, architect of 48 Moorgate, Rotherham, has prepared plans for the erection of new headquarters on a site in Howard Street for the members of the local branch of the Y.M.C.A.

SHREWSBURY.—The Borough Surveyor is to prepare plans for 40 houses to be erected at Crowmere Road.

STRETTFORD.—The Education Committee have obtained a site in King's Road for the erection of an elementary school for 1,200 scholars.—Plans passed: 10 houses, Plumbley Drive, for Artistic Housing Co., Ltd.; petrol station, Chester Road, for Cleveland's Petroleum Products Co.; stables, bottling stores, Warwick Road, for Aerowatta Direct Supply Co., Ltd.; extensions to premises, Warwick Road North, for Messrs. H. & J. Quick, Ltd.; strong room, Trafford Park, for Midland Bank Co.; alterations offices, Longford Bridge, for Stretford and District Gas Board.

THAKEHAM.—The R.D.C. are to erect 58 houses.

WESTMINSTER.—The Board of Education have approved the plans of the managers for structural alterations and improvements at the St. Michael's non-provided school, St. George's, Westminster.

General News.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Tenders are to be invited for the enlargement of the Stourfield Elementary School.—It is proposed to erect Police barracks on a site adjoining the Landsdowne Council School.—Plans passed: 5 shops and houses, Southbourne Grove, for Mr. A. C. Hunter; additions, Richmond Hotel, Charninster Road, for Messrs. Strong & Co.; showrooms, 167 Holdenhurst Road, for Messrs. Kennedy's, Ltd.; hall, Portland Road, for Mr. Collins; 5 houses, Fenton Road, for Messrs. A. F. Clarke & Sons; 4 houses, Victoria Park Road, for Mr. A. Barnes; 7 houses, Murley Road, for Mr. S. G. Ward; 18 houses, Carey Road, for Mr. C. K. Habgood; 4 houses, Barrie Road, for Mr. H. Masters; 5 houses, Pine Road, for Mr. A. Adams.—The Corporation have accepted the following tenders: 12 pairs of semi-detached houses, Messrs. F. A. Grigg & Sons, £1,120 per pair; Messrs. Symes, Chisham & Saunders, four pairs at £1,116 per pair; and Messrs. Tooe Conway, Ltd., 16 blocks of flats, each block containing four flats, for £22,880.

BRADFORD.—The Corporation have provisionally arranged with Mr. J. Bickerdike, of Grove House, Bolton, to erect 200 subsidy houses on the Grove estate.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £74,051 for the erection of 166 dwellings on the Lower Grange estate.—Idle Road is to be widened at a cost of £2,737.—The Heaton (Bradford) Estates Co., Ltd., are to erect 14 houses in Duchy Drive.—The city engineer has been asked to secure a site for the erection of new buildings for the Thornton Grammar School.

BRENTFORD.—Messrs. C. E. & H. A. Steel, architects, 2 Plough Terrace, Ealing, W.5, are to develop a site near The Ride.—Plans passed: Large repairing ways, Lot's Eyot, for Thames Tug & Lighterage Co., Ltd.; 6 houses, Swyncombe Avenue, for Mr. W. Gardner; alterations, North Star public house, for Mr. Nowell Parr; 21 houses, The Ride, for Mr. A. Jackman.

BRIGHTON.—The Committee of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children, Brighton, are raising £5,000 for improvements and extensions. Plans have already been prepared for a nurses' home to cost about £2,000.

CARLISLE.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Old Knowe Road, Stanwix, for Mr. I. Fisher, estate plans, Scotland Road, for Messrs. J. M. Richardson & Son, architects; 4 houses, Brampton Road, for Messrs. Benwell & Slack, architects; 2 bungalows, Criffel Road, for Mr. H. E. Scarborough, architect.

CARSHALTON.—The United Methodists are to erect a new church in Ruskin Road, Carlshalton, and the present building will be used as a school room.

CITY OF LONDON.—The City Corporation have allocated £1,200 for repairs and renovations at the Mansion House.

CROYDON.—The Corporation have appointed Mr. H. Carter Pegg as architect to prepare plans for increasing the accommodation at the mental hospital at a cost of about £18,000.—The Education Committee have arranged for Mr. Pegg to be the architect for the secondary school to be erected on the Shirley Road site.—Mr. A. Sutherland, F.R.I.B.A., has been appointed architect for the new infants' department, and alterations at the North Park School.—Plans passed: 13 houses, Shirley Road, for Messrs. Paish, Tyler & Crump; 4 houses, Montpelier Road, for Mr. J. P. Oldaker; 20 houses, Kenley Gardens, Thornton Heath, for Mr. F. H. Willcocks; 4 houses, Lawrence Road, South Norwood, for Mr. L. A. Culliford; 13 houses, Ross Road, for Mr. P. Richardson; 13 houses, Stafford Road, for Mr. L. White; 10 houses, Beauchamp Road, for Messrs. G. Poulton & Sons; 9 houses, Sunnybank, South Norwood, for Mr. V. Shire; 4 houses, Blenheim Park Road, for Messrs. Morgan, Baines & Clark; 14 garages, Avondale Road, for Messrs. Scratchley Bros.; extension, Bedford Park Constitutional Club, for Mr. E. H. Smith; shops, offices and flats, 27, 29 and 31 High Street, for Mr. E. Bates, of 27 Victoria Street, E.C.4; 26 houses, Warminster Road, for Mr. L. S. Rogers.

DARFIELD.—West Riding Education Committee have voted £7,500 for the provision of an elementary school for 250 scholars at Darfield.

DORKING.—Having failed to obtain the Mill Pond site for the erection of a secondary school the Surrey Education Committee are to seek another site.

DOVER.—The borough engineer has been asked to report as to the cost of erecting a row of 12 four-roomed cottages for rehousing purposes on the Crabble Hill improvement area.—It is proposed to proceed with the first part of a scheme to cost altogether £24,000 for the reconstruction of the isolation hospital.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Whitfield Avenue, for Mr. H. F. Caspall.

EASTBOURNE.—Mr. Chatfield is to develop his estate at Brassey Avenue.

EPSOM.—The Board of Education have approved plans sub-

mitted by the Surrey Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school for girls at Epsom at an estimated cost of £40,700.

GOOLE.—An elementary school for 600 is to be provided at Goole by the West Riding Education Committee, the estimated cost being £18,000.

GREAT PRESTON.—West Riding Education Committee have voted £13,500 for the provision of a new elementary school at Great Preston. Accommodation is to be provided for 450 scholars.

HANWELL.—The U.D.C. surveyor has prepared plans for 30 houses on the Hopefield estate, and tenders are shortly to be invited.—Ashby's Staines Brewery, Ltd., are to reconstruct licensed premises in Boston Road.—Plans passed: 18 houses, Humes Avenue, for Mr. A. Parr Head; alterations, Lloyds Bank, Uxbridge Road, for Mr. C. R. Price.

HENDON.—In connection with the development of the Hendon estate, where 3,000 houses are to be built, the L.C.C. Housing Committee recommend the appointment of Messrs. C. J. Wills & Sons, Ltd., as master contractors on a percentage basis on lines similar to those upon which the firm have developed Becontree.

HORNSEY.—The Education Committee have decided that the new school proposed to be erected on the Coldfall housing estate, Highgate, shall have accommodation for 810 scholars.—Plans passed: Workshop, Broadway, Muswell Hill, for Mr. Frederick Mantle; 6 houses, Creighton Avenue, for Messrs. S. W. Phillips & Co.

KENSINGTON.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have approved plans for rebuilding the Sirdar Road elementary school, Kensington, at a cost of £40,000.

KENSINGTON.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have prepared plans for an elementary school for 760 children on the site in Bevington Road. The cost is estimated at £30,800.

LEICESTER.—The Corporation have agreed with Major Winstanley for the purchase of the Braunstone estate comprising 1,064 acres, including the hall and park, for £115,000, for housing and other purposes.—The Housing Committee cannot recommend a contract for steel houses, having ascertained that the cost would be £548 as against £465 for a brick house.—The Committee are to obtain tenders for the erection of 500 brick houses.

LIVERPOOL.—Mr. H. S. Russell, architect, 15 Swinton Street, Liverpool, has prepared plans for the management of the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital at Heswall for the alterations and extensions to the institution, including new playyards, extensions to nurses' home on the ground, first and second floors, sitting rooms, reading rooms and new sanitary conveniences. Two contracts have been placed: (1) Messrs. W. Fleming & Co., contractors, Neston; (2) Mr. Albert Fleming, contractor, Neston.

LODSWORTH.—The Lodsworth (Sussex) Village Hall Committee are inviting tenders for the erection of a village hall.

LUTON.—A scheme is to be prepared for converting premises in Upper George Street into offices for the borough engineer and the Medical Officer of Health.—Mr. Turner has prepared a scheme for the development of the Brache Estate.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Farley Hill, for Mr. J. T. Garrett, builder; 10 houses, Argyll Avenue, for Mr. W. D. Dyer, builder; boiler house, Kingsway, for Messrs. B. Laporte, Ltd.; extensions, 103 and 105 Park Street, for Luton Co-operative Society; 6 houses, Beresford Road, for Mr. C. H. White, builder; 8 houses, Churchill Road, for Mr. W. J. Wells, builder; new lavatories, Gordon Street, for County Electric Pavilion, Ltd.; addition to factory, Reginald Street, for Mr. A. E. Heley.

MANCHESTER.—Plans have been prepared by the Education Committee for the erection of a secondary school for girls at Levenshulme at a cost of £62,876.—The central school for boys, Oswald Road, Chorlton, is to be reconstructed at a cost of £14,000.—Plans have now been prepared for the adaptation of Platt Hall as a branch art gallery, the cost being estimated at £4,500.

MANCHESTER.—A site at Chorlton Brook has been allocated to the Education Committee for the erection of a school.—It has been decided to erect 300 houses by direct labour on the Moston housing estate.—It is proposed to proceed forthwith with a portion of the Davyhulme sewage scheme by direct labour at a cost of £83,000.—It is recommended that Platt Hall should be converted into a branch art gallery, the City Architect computing the cost of adaptation at £4,500.—A loan of £2,894 has been sanctioned for the erection of a practical instruction centre at Rusholme.

MANCHESTER.—Plans passed by the Manchester Corporation include the following:—Alterations and additions to house, North Street, Openshaw, Messrs. Broughton, Atkinson & Eagle,

architects, 37 Brown Street, Manchester.—Revised plan of alterations, etc., to "Pomona Hotel," Reddish Lane and Waterhouse Lane, Gorton, Messrs. Bramald & Smith, architects, 4 Cannon Street, Manchester.—Details of steelwork to premises, 146 Deansgate and Wood Street, Mr. C. de C. Fraser, architect, 27 Dale Street, Liverpool.—Details of reinforced concrete foundations to Imperial Buildings, Oxford Road, C. Swain, architect, 12 Exchange Street, Manchester.—Alterations to Dominion House, Whitworth Street, Galbraith Street and Beaver Street, Mr. H. S. Fairhurst, architect, 14 Chancery Lane, Manchester.—Store at rear of 372A Stretford Road and Russell Street, Hulme, Mr. H. H. Hacking, architect, 5 Blackfriars Street, Manchester.—Conversion of house into shop and house, 3 Johnson Street and Howard Street, Gorton, Messrs. Pendleton and Dickinson, architects, 16 Brazenose Street, Manchester.—City Architect, revised plan and section, boiler house and store, Tramway Depot, Hyde Road, Ardwick.—Alterations to warehouse, Worsley Street Mill, Hulme, Messrs. J. Clarke & Son, architects.—Revised plan and section of billiard hall, 89 St. James Street and Oxford Street, Mr. W. L. Mellor, architect.—Working men's club and institute, Stanley Street and Barber Street, Openshaw, Mr. F. H. Overmann, architect, 183 Oxford Road, Manchester.—Transformer house to warehouse, Worsley Street Mills, Hulme, Messrs. J. Clarke & Son, architects, 30 Castle Street, Liverpool.—Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Ltd., offices, Cross Street, South King Street and Four Yards, Messrs. Grace & Farman, architects, London, E.C.—Revised details of reinforced concrete floors, Masonic Hall, Bridge Street and Wood Street, Messrs. T. Worthington & Sons, architects, 178 Oxford Road, Manchester.—Showrooms to premises, Great Jackson Street and Hamilton Street, Hulme, Messrs. Dury & Gomersall, architects, Imperial Buildings, Manchester.—Additions to warehouse, Poland Street, Ancoats, Messrs. C. S. Allott & Son, architects, North Parade, Manchester.—Dwelling house, Victoria Avenue, Blackley, Mr. P. Hothersall, architect, 11 Piccadilly, Manchester.—Dwelling house, Victoria Avenue, Mr. T. Barlass, architect, Manchester.—Revised plan and section shop and offices, Nos. 180/184 Oldham Road, and Poland Street, Mr. N. H. Hacking, architect, 5 Blackfriars Street, Manchester.—Store and workshop, Bent Street, Cheetham, Messrs. Jones & Dalrymple, architects, 178 Oxford Road, Manchester.—Alterations to the "Brunswick Inn," 127 Bury New Road, Cheetham, Messrs. Wright & Hambley, architects, 20 Winmanleigh Street, Warrington.—Newton Heath Working Men's Club, additions to Club, High Street, Newton Heath, Mr. E. W. Wood, architect, 62 Market Street, Manchester.—Order of Ancient Maccabees, alterations and additions to club, 385/387 Waterloo Road, Cheetham, Mr. P. Cummings, architect, 51 King Street, Manchester.—Five shops and houses, Waterloo Road, Cheetham, own architect.—Plan and section of new street, viz.:—St. Chads Road and continuation of Parsonage Road, Withington, Mr. N. Cowell, architect, Tatton Estate Office, John Dalton Street, Manchester.—Revised plan of lounge to ballroom, La Scala Picture Theatre, Oxford Road, Chorlton-upon-Medlock.—Store, Cross Street and South Road, Didsbury, Mr. W. Cheetham, architect, Chapel Street, Didsbury.—Manchester Garages, Ltd., revised elevation, showroom and garage, Oxford Road and High Street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, own architects.—Twenty-two houses, Oliva Grove, Hall Road, and The Close, Rusholme, Mr. T. Hockenhill, architect, 6 Meade Grove, Longsight.—Seventeen houses and 12 lock-up garages, Kingsmere Avenue and Peaceville Road, Rusholme, Mr. F. Finn, architect, 1 North Parade, Manchester.—Commercial Estates, Ltd., 15 houses and revised plan of nine houses, Adria Road and Melrose Avenue, Didsbury, own architects.—Manchester and Salford Equitable Co-operative Society, alterations and additions to premises, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, own architects.—Conversion of houses into flats, "Willow Bank," 366 to 372 Moss Lane East, Moss Side, Mr. A. McDonald, architect, 71 Meadow Street, Moss Side, Manchester.—Revised plan of details of roof to toilet works off Lytham Avenue and Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Mr. A. M. Surnter, architect, 25 Oswald Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.—Four houses, Edge Lane, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Mr. E. W. Taylor, architect, 135 Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.—Four houses, St. Brannocks Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Mr. A. Whitelegg, architect, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.—Showroom, garage and hall, Withington Road and Dudley Road, Moss Side, Manchester, Mr. A. Burke, architect, 38 Deansgate, Manchester.—Manchester and Salford Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., shops, Withington Road, Moss Side, Manchester, own architects.—W. & H. Pownall, Ltd., alterations and additions to works, Stockport Road, West Gorton, shop front, 9 South King Street and Ridge Field, Messrs. J. H. Beaumont & Son, architects, 24 Brazenose Street, Manchester.—District Bank, Ltd., alterations to bank, King Street, Mr. F. Jones, architect, 178

Oxford Road, Manchester.—Details of steelwork to offices, Cross Street, Chapel Walks and Back Pool Fold, Mr. H. S. Fairhurst, architect, 14 Chancery Lane, Manchester.—Shop front, 17 Stockport Road and John Street, Levenshulme, Mr. T. W. Turner, architect.—Eleven houses and revised plan and section of one house, Ansleigh Avenue, Crumpsall, Mr. E. L. Doyle, architect, 30 Esmond Road, Crumpsall.—Alterations and additions to Farmers Arms, Burnage Lane and Bibby Lane, Burnage, Messrs. Graves & Ellerton, architects, 9 Mount Street, Manchester.—Alterations and additions to club, "Chasewood," Park Avenue, Levenshulme, Mr. F. Fenn, architect, 1 North Parade, Manchester.—Alterations and additions to premises, Slade Lane and Portland Road, Rusholme, Mr. A. S. Walsingham, architect.—Sixty houses, Shireoak Road, Parsonage Road, St. Chads Road, and Mauldeth Road, Withington, Messrs. Mellor, Speakman & Hall, architects, 1 Cooper Street, Manchester.—Twelve houses and revised drain plans, eight houses, Brooklin Avenue and Egerton Road, Whalley Range, Mr. H. Rowlands, architect.—Moss Side Garage and Mart Co., five lock-up shops, Carter Street and Denmark Road, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Mr. A. McDonald, architect, 17 Meadow Street, Moss Side, Manchester.

MILE END.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have now arranged to provide a school for 1,124 children on the Cephas Street site, Mile End.

NORWOOD.—A site in Carnac Road, Norwood, has been purchased by the L.C.C. Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school.

OTLEY.—Extensions are to be undertaken at Otley Grammar School at a cost of £18,208.

OXTED.—Surrey Education Committee have asked their architect to prepare plans for a secondary school for about 300 pupils on the Blue House Lane site, Oxted.

PECKHAM.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have acquired a site in Homestall Road, Peckham, for the erection of a secondary school.

POPLAR.—Plans have been prepared by the L.C.C. Education Committee for the erection of a school for physically defective children on a site in Hall Road, Poplar.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—Another 77 houses are to be subsidised the Ministry of Health having fixed the maximum net selling price at £600 per house.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—A handicraft centre is to be erected at the Mortimer Road School at a cost of £1,670.—A site on the Cleaden Park housing estate has been allocated for the erection of an elementary school.—Messrs. T. A. Page & Sons, on behalf of Mr. Milton Swales, have prepared a scheme for the development of a building estate at Cauldwell.—A loan of £42,000 has been sanctioned for resurfacing streets.—Plans passed: 52 houses and new roads off Harton Lane for Mr. F. W. Newby, on behalf of Messrs. Henderson Bros.; alterations, Catherine public house, Woodbine Street, for Messrs. T. A. Page; rebuilding Phoenix Inn, Paygate, for Mr. F. W. Newby, on behalf of Mr. R. M. Lamb; dressing rooms and lavatories, Crown Electric Theatre, Hudson Street, for Mr. W. H. Scaife, on behalf of Queen's Grand Cinema, Ltd.; alterations, Masonic Hall, Whitehead Street, for Mr. Howard Hill, on behalf of Freemasons' Lodge.—The Housing Committee recommend the tender, £164,667 12s. 10d., of Messrs. Gustavus Bailey, Ltd., for the erection of 356 houses on the Cleaden Park Estate.—The Education Committee have now accepted the tender, £3,445, of Messrs. Humphreys, Ltd., Manchester, for the erection of a school of art.

STOKE ON TRENT.—The Corporation Sewage Committee recommend a scheme for the Trent Vale sewage, excluding the bacteria beds, at a cost of £117,806.—Messrs. Hollins & Jones, architects, Newcastle, are negotiating with the Corporation for the purchase of land at Hartshill for building purposes.—Fresh tenders are to be invited for the reconstruction of the Fenton Town Hall roof.—The Electricity Committee have accepted the tender of Messrs. Maddock Bros., of Audley, for the erection of four pairs of all-electric houses, and at £4,500, and of the British Electric Transformer Co., Ltd., of Hayes, Middlesex, for an extra high pressure testing set for the scheme.—The Housing Committee are acquiring housing sites at Northwood Park, at Collinson Square, Goldenhill, and at Acres Wood, Burslem.—Messrs. Bass & Co. propose to rebuild the Duke William Inn, Newcastle Street, Burslem, in connection with the improvement scheme, the firm's architects being Messrs. Forshaw & Palmer, of Burton-on-Trent.—The Committee of the New Church of Christ are to erect a church in Williamson Street, Tunstall.—The Rev. Father Browne is to erect a Roman Catholic Church in Hall Street, Burslem.—Mr. Goodwin, architect, of Longton, has prepared a scheme for new streets on land off Weston Road, Meir.—Another 250 houses are to be subsidised.—Two experimental steel houses are to be constructed at Racecourse Farm, Bootham.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £329,000 for the erection of 700 houses on the Meir and Abbey sites.



M.G.P.

SWITCHES

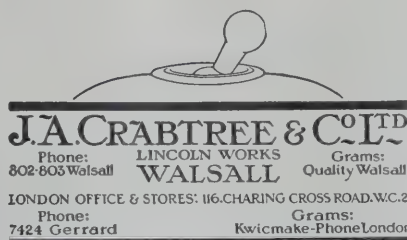
and their users!

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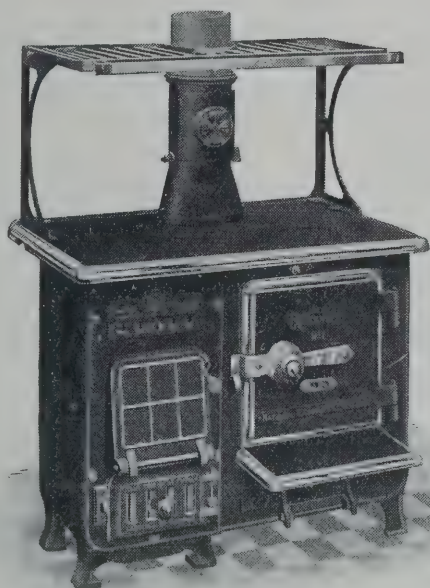
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Election of B.C.G.A. President, 1925-6.

At the final session of the 14th annual conference of the British Commercial Gas Association at Plymouth it was decided to accept the invitation to hold the Conference of October, 1926, at Newcastle, under the presidency of Mr. John E. Cowen, well known in the industrial world as a colliery owner and as the head of the foundry works of Messrs. Smith Patterson and Company at Newcastle. He is also a director of the steel works and collieries of Messrs. Walter Scott, Ltd., of the Redhough Bridge Co., and of the High Gosforth Park Co. In 1909 he became a director of the Newcastle and Gateshead Gas Co., and in 1918 he was appointed chairman. Mr. John E. Cowen has been a Justice of the Peace since 1901, and is nominated for the office of High Sheriff for the county of Northumberland. He is the grandson of the late Sir Joseph Cowen, who was M.P. for Newcastle for many years. The new president, apart from his business interests, has identified himself with the public life of his county and is a keen sportsman, especially noted in the hunting field.

Company Fusion.

Western Electric to become Standard.

Change in Ownership but not in Policy. The Western Electric Co., Ltd., of London will, from October 31, 1925, be known as "Standard Telephones and Cables Limited." The registered and executive office will remain at Connaught House, Aldwych, W.C.2.

An announcement has already appeared in the Press of the sale to the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation of the International Western Electric Co., by the Western Electric Company Incorporated.

Under this new ownership, the International Western Electric Co. will, in future, be known as the International Standard Electric Corporation, and will continue to hold exclusive licenses under the foreign patents of the Western Electric Company Incorporated in the telephone and telegraph field, and will also continue to act as the exclusive distributors outside of the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland, for all Western Electric manufactures.

The change in ownership of the International Western Electric Company, with whom the Western Electric Company, Limited, of London, have been affiliated, will not involve any material changes in either the organisation or the broad policy that has always been followed by the latter company, unless such changes are of a progressive nature.

Correction.

Our attention has been drawn by Messrs. Arthur L. Gibson & Co., Ltd., Radnor Works, Strawberry Vale, Twickenham, to a mis-statement which appeared on page 302 in our issue of THE ARCHITECT, dated October 23, in reference to the St. Martin's-le-Grand site, where we stated that Messrs. Gunton & Gunton were the architects for all the new buildings. This is not correct, and we wish to express our sincere regrets to Mr. L. S. Sylvester Sullivan, architect, and any others who may have been inadvertently omitted. Mr. Sullivan is responsible for the North Block buildings for which Dr. Oscar Faber is the engineer. We further understand that 38 Kinnear patent shutters for fire protection will be fitted in this building. Recent and current contracts of Messrs. Arthur L. Gibson & Co., Ltd., include the fitting and supplying of shutters of a similar character, all in accordance with the L.C.C. requirements:—For Messrs. Swan & Edgar's new building, by Messrs. Belcher and J. J. Joass, architects, 61 shutters; for Messrs. John Barker & Co., 126 shutters; for Messrs. Pontings, High Street, Kensington, 80 shutters.

CHARLTON-HORETHORNE.—Boyle's patent "Air-Pump" ventilators have been applied to the village hall, under the direction of Mr. W. J. Gillingham, architect, Haydon, Sherborne.

The Honiton Town Council are now advertising for tenders for sewerage works to link up the Kings' Road area, this work being additional to the scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal now being constructed. The engineers are W. H. Radford & Son, of Nottingham.

The Minister of Health, the Right Honourable Neville Chamberlain, M.P., has appointed Mr. P. N. R. Butcher to be his Assistant Private Secretary.

We regret to receive the information of the death of Mr. Brett A. Elphicke, chairman of Messrs. Mark Fawcett & Co., Ltd., of 65 Victoria St., S.W.1. The business will be carried on as usual by the remaining directors, Messrs. John H. Fawcett and Bernard Elphicke.

Lantern Slides for Engineering Lectures.

Tangyes, Limited, Cornwall Works, Birmingham, inform us that they have available for loan (free of charge) to engineering lecturers and technical instructors, a large and varied selection of lantern slides of their manufactures, comprising gas engines and suction gas producers, oil engines, steam and power pumps, hydraulic machinery, machine tools, etc., also an assortment of slides of historical interest dealing with these subjects.

There has been an increasing demand each year for the loan of these slides, and a list of same will be sent free on application.

Messrs. Tangyes, Limited, have also prepared a number of papers dealing with their different classes of machinery which are available for loan, if required, to assist lecturers in preparing their own papers.

Tenders Accepted and Recommended.

Salford Corporation Tramways Committee recommend the tender, £1,318, of Messrs. Thomas Blackburn & Sons, Ltd., Preston, for the supply and erection of a steel-framed shed at the central car depot, Pendleton.

Leicester Corporation have accepted the tender, £33,584 4s.10d., of Messrs. John J. Shardlow & Co., Leicester, for laying rising mains in connection with additional works of sewage disposal.

Leicester Corporation have provisionally accepted the following tenders for filtration plant installation at Vestry Street baths: The Turn Over Filter Co., Belfast, for filter, £2,150; Messrs. Ashwell & Nesbit, for calorifiers, £526; Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., for pipework, £1,673; and Messrs. Coltman Bros., for structural alterations, £1,091 12s. 6d.

The L.C.C. Education Committee have accepted the following tenders: £39,895, of Messrs. J. Carmichael, Ltd. (contractors), for the erection of a secondary school for girls at Woolwich; £3,214, of Messrs. H. Groves and Son, Stockwell Street, Greenwich, for alterations at the South Lambeth Central School; £14,849 6s., of Messrs. F. & T. Thorne, Isle of Dogs, for the erection of a new department at the Haimo Street Elementary School, Woolwich. The L.C.C. Education Committee recommend that Messrs. Holland & Hannen and Cubitts, Ltd., contractors for the Downham housing estate, be given the contract for the erection of a new central school on the estate at the price of £34,500. They also recommend the tender, £47,304, of Messrs. L. H. & R. Roberts, 144 Lower Clapton Road, for the extension of the Hackney Institute.

Surrey Education Committee have accepted the tender, £35,774, of Messrs. H. Taylor & Son, Epsom, for the erection of a secondary school at Reigate.

The Central Markets Committee or the City of London Corporation recommend the tender, £8,488, of Messrs. Holliday & Greenwood, Ltd., for works in connection with the sub-structure of the Central Market.

Building Progress.

The Metropolitan Railway is engaged upon the enlargement of Aldgate Station, for which the Pitcher Construction Co., Ltd., are the general contractors; Westwood's are supplying the steelwork, and Middleton (of Leeds) the glazed bricks.

The Fountain Hotel, Garratt Lane, Tooting, is being rebuilt by J. Garratt & Son; Phorpres Fletton bricks are supplied by the London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd.; and London and Wales Steel Construction Co. supplied the steelwork. Near by Messrs. Swain & Selby are developing a large housing scheme. At the junction of Mitcham Lane and Babington Road J. Garratt & Son are engaged upon the erection of a block of shops (with first floor over) and the firm of London Brick Co. and Forders' are furnishing the Fletton bricks, known as "Phorpres."

New premises are being erected in Moorgate Street for the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, Ltd., from the designs of Sir Aston Webb & Son, the general contractors being Leslie & Co., Ltd. The structural steel is supplied by Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd.; Diespeker & Co., Ltd., for fire-resisting blocks; and Cement Marketing Co., for "Blue Circle" cement.

Important alterations and a unique scheme of decoration under the architect, George Coles, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., have been decided upon by the proprietors of the Canterbury Music Hall, Westminster Bridge Road. It is a point of interest that the fact that Messrs. Kirk & Kirk, Ltd., of Atlas Works, Putney, are the successful contractors, entails that work carried out by the first generation is now being altered by the third generation.

Mr. B. A. Tapp and his son, Mr. R. R. Tapp, of 93 Thornbury Road, Isleworth, are now representing Messrs. Waterhouse, Denbigh & Co., Ltd., for Bolton Wood (Hard York) Stone in London and the South of England.

CONTENTS.

The Presidential Address at the R.I.B.A.	PAGE 321	Book Review—"The Modern Style"	PAGE 332
Some Northumbrian Castles—I	325	Some Architectural Epitaphs.	334
Tintern Abbey	328	Competition Results	336
The R.I.B.A. Presidential Address	329	General News	340

The Presidential Address at the R.I.B.A.

Mr. Guy Dawber gave an excellent address at the opening meeting of the R.I.B.A. session, though, as is customary on such occasions, he dealt with generalities. A president always refers to what has been done during the régime of his immediate predecessors in office, and naturally gives accomplished facts his benison. Unification having been effected, that issue is now closed, and time will alone show whether the benefits anticipated from it will prove tangible realities. As for Registration, it remains to be seen whether any proposed measure will obtain Parliamentary sanction, and the profession is only divided between a majority which is very hopeful of its beneficial effects, and a minority who look on those benefits as illusory; but the minority has no reason to offer any opposition to a measure which clearly can do little harm if it does not do good.

These matters being disposed of there remains the issue of architectural education, which we must unanimously wish should be as thorough and well organised as it can be, and though we may find faults in the system and curricula of some of the schools, there can be little doubt that they are all doing good and useful work.

We are more sceptical about the greater interest and understanding of architectural matters which is supposed to be shown by the public and by the newspapers which they read. We believe that architects as a whole are designing work of greater average merit than they formerly did, because they are better trained and have a higher standard of efficiency. We also believe that the public, seeing better designed buildings and having no knowledge of architecture, accepts what it sees, but there the matter ends. It is more than likely that if our architects worked backwards by degrees to mid-Victorian standards of taste, their work would be taken by the public uncomplainingly, though such a transition would have to be effected by gradual steps. In a word, until and unless architecture is taught like other subjects in the schools to every one, we shall never possess what we may call an educated public, however complacently the public Press may discourse on the subject.

Deep-rooted public appreciation of architecture can, in reality, only come in two ways. The first by the growth of tradition among those who practise the building crafts and, failing this, by the teaching the elements of architectural design in all schools.

With Mr. Dawber's statements regarding the destruction of the beauties of our towns by displayed advertisements, and of the country by badly designed and badly placed buildings, we are in entire agreement, for both evils are only too evident to all of us. At the present rate of "progress," it will not be fifty years before every beauty in the country, except among its highest hills, will have become a thing of the past. The Victorian epoch left us with unlovely suburbs round our great towns, but great tracts of the country between them remained almost untouched. Now, while we may say that the average small houses

are better planned, more convenient and possibly better designed than their predecessors, very little care is displayed in their grouping and arrangement, with the result that the beauty of great tracts of country is almost utterly ruined by the haphazard peppering of the land with rectangles of brick with slate or tile lids.

We are, it is true, promised in a few years the compulsory application of the Housing and Town Planning Act to the whole country, so that every authority will be forced to prepare its scheme, but it seems likely that this will be similar to the shutting of a door after the horse has been stolen. Moreover, those who have practical acquaintance with the extremely slow procedure of the Ministry of Health in such matters may well be sceptical whether much good will come unless public opinion enforces more determined action. The gross abuse of displayed advertisements in our towns is an evil which can be more readily attacked, because there is no reason why buildings could not be stripped of the unsightly additions which have been made to them. And such measures might be taken without injury to the interests of anyone except those of a comparatively small number of the makers of such signs and advertising devices. We do not believe that the makers or sellers of any kind of goods would do less business without such advertisements, while they would be relieved of what must often be a considerable expense made necessary by the present licence allowed to all. We would go even further and say that it would hurt nobody if the public authorities insisted on a definite ratio of supports to window space for all shops and definitely discouraged or forbade the introduction of enormous sheets of glass embracing several stories in height. These destroy a proper sense of scale in our streets, serve no useful purpose, and may be considered simply and solely as displayed advertisement in permanent materials.

But in order to effect much improvement in such matters, it is, we are afraid, very difficult to do much that will be effective until we have a public educated in some manner in the elements of architecture. Our public men, whether they be members of the House of Commons, or of some local authority, are as a rule ignorant of the issues involved, and for that reason cannot understand the causes which make the modern city a restless irritant to those whose æsthetic susceptibilities are better trained. They often notice, it is true, the difference between the beauty of some old city and the horrors of modern commercialism, but they neither analyse nor understand how it is that architects under present conditions cannot cope with or master the problem.

We hope that the President may, during his term of office, be able to launch a movement in favour of what we may call æsthetic decency, and if he can succeed in doing so, he will have conferred a great benefit both on the profession of which he is a distinguished member and on the public whom that profession works for and serves.

Our Illustrations.

LONDON-LANCASHIRE HOUSE, LEADENHALL STREET AND BISHOPSGATE STREET, LONDON.
MESSRS. M. E. & O. H. COLLINS, Architects.

MEMORIAL CROSS, SILKSTONE, YORKS. L. H. BUCKNELL, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

HOUSE, SPRINGHEAD ESTATE, NEAR HASLEMERE. G. ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

London-Lancashire House, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

EXTENSION OF PREMISES FOR THE LONDON AND LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

SCALE 8 FEET TO 1 INCH



GROUND FLOOR PLAN SHOWING NEW CORNER ADDITIONS TO LONDON-LANCASHIRE HOUSE, LEADENHALL STREET AND BISHOPSGATE STREET. MESSRS. M. E. & O. H. COLLINS, Architects.

The additional corner building has been erected which forms internally and externally a continuation and completion of the company's existing premises, Nos. 149 to 155 Leadenhall Street.

The Leadenhall Street elevation is so planned as to bring the main entrance to the company's own offices in the centre of the building.

At the angle of Leadenhall Street and Bishopsgate, a tower is placed which contains an electric illuminated clock which can be seen not only from the Mansion House, but also from the London Bridge end of Gracechurch Street.

The additional new building contains ten storeys, with a superficial area of approximately 24,000 ft. The entire premises now contain nearly two acres of floor space.

The ground floor hall is lined with veined statuary marble and Sicilian white marble is utilised on the lower ground floor and throughout the staircase.

The exterior is in Portland stone, with granite base, and a bronze doorway gives access from Leadenhall Street to the ground floor premises. The upper floors are entered from Bishopsgate.

Every part of the new building has excellent natural light. Carefully considered schemes have been installed for electric lighting, central and domestic heating, mechanical ventilation, air washing and ozonising.

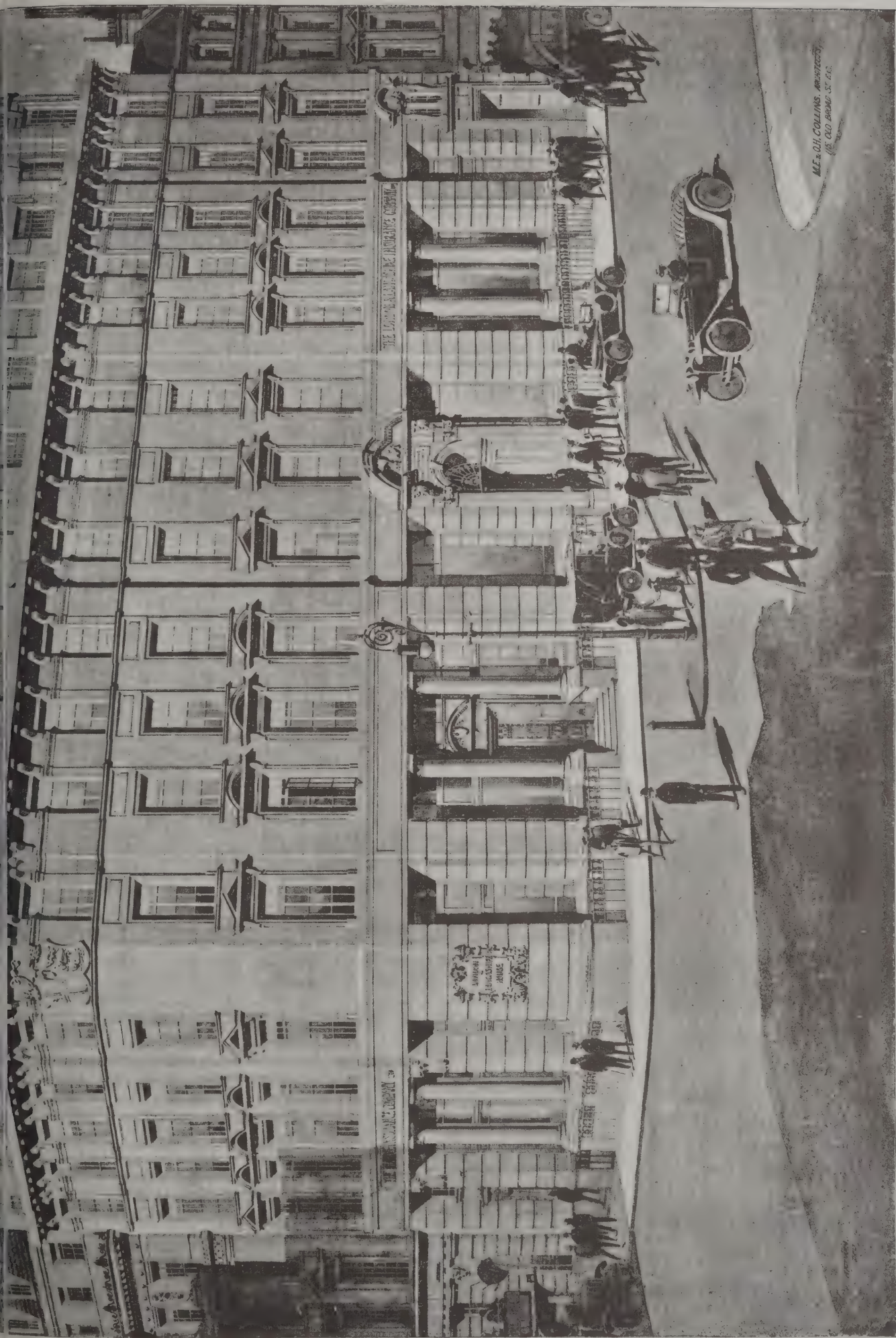
An electric elevator is installed and posting chutes are positioned on every landing.

The architects are Messrs. M. E. & O. H. Collins, of 115 Old Broad Street, E.C. The contractors and sub-contractors are as follows: General contractors, Messrs. Ashby & Horner; stone carving, Mr. G. Hawkings; drainage and sanitary work, boilers and heating and warming systems, Messrs. Davis Bennett & Co.; electric lighting and ozone machinery, Messrs. Pinching & Walton; steel construction, Messrs. Moreland, Hayne & Co.; reinforced floors, The Kleine Patent Fire Resisting Flooring Syndicate, Ltd.; bronze and steel windows, Messrs. Crittall Manufacturing Co.; marble work, Messrs. Fenning & Co.; tiling, Messrs. W. B. Simpson and Co.; ornamental plaster ceilings, board room and luncheon room panelling, Messrs. P. Turpin & Co.; electric lift, Express Lift Co.; ornamental lift enclosure and rails to staircase, bronze door and ornamental metal work, Birmingham Guild, Ltd.; locks and door furniture, Messrs. J. Kaye & Sons; well sinking and pumps, Messrs. A. Williams & Co.; strong room doors, Chatwood Safe Co.; Biancola partitions, Art Pavements & Decorations, Ltd.; glazing, The Luxfer Co., Ltd.; letter chutes, Messrs. Waygood-Otis, Ltd.; gas service and kitchen fittings, The Gas Light & Coke Co.; pavement lights, &c., J. A. King & Co., Ltd.; asphalt, Val de Travers Asphalt Paving Co. Ltd.; railings to street and radiator grilles, W. T. Allen & Co.; clocks and dials, The Standard Time Co.

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THE ARCHITECT, NOVEMBER 6th, 1925.





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LONDON & LANCASHIRE HOUSE, LEADENHALL STREET & BISHOPSGATE STREET, LONDON.

MESSRS. M. E. & O. H. COLLINS, ARCHITECTS.

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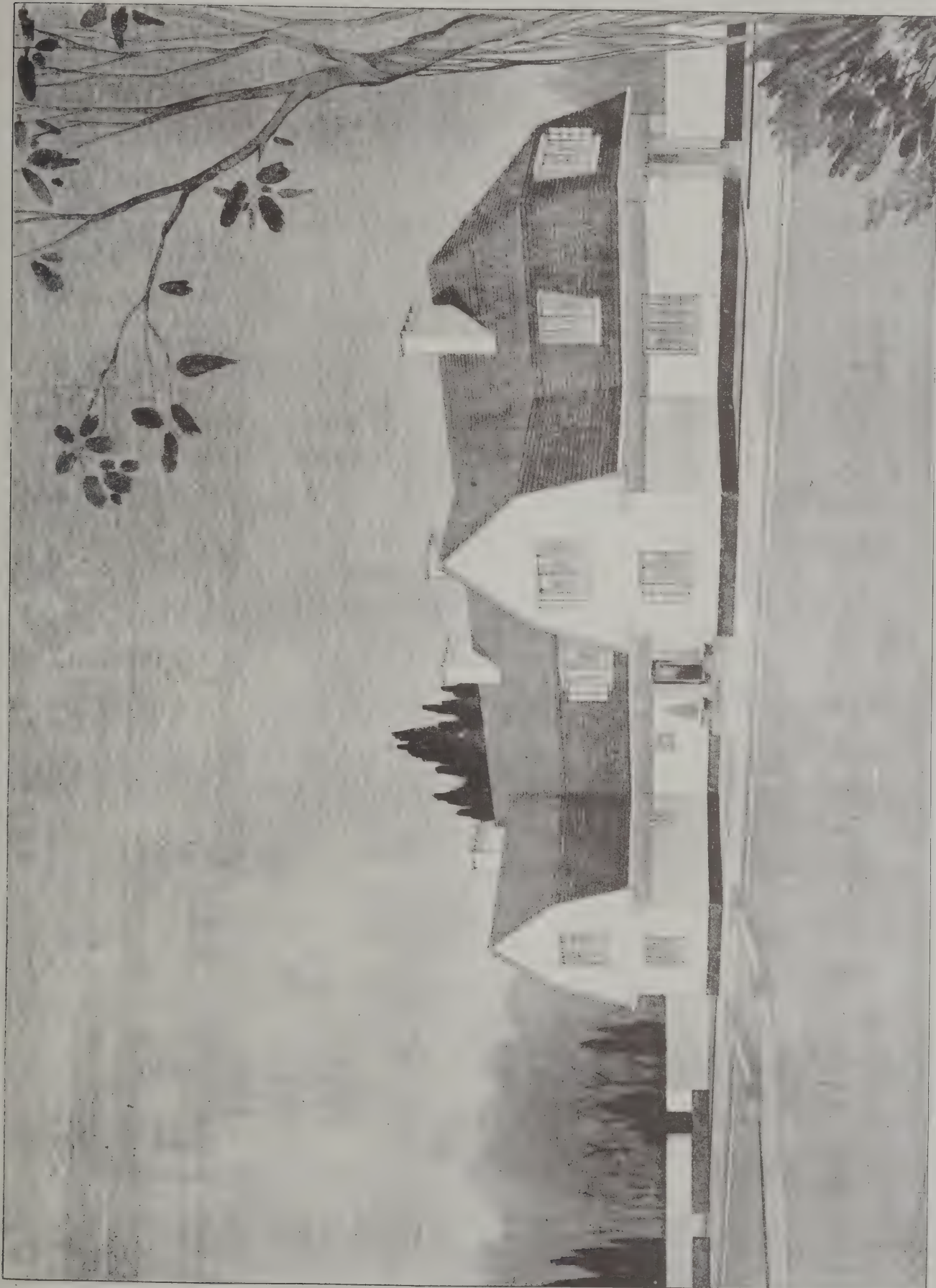


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HOUSE-SPRINGHEAD ESTATE, NEAR HASLEMERE.

G. ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

DRAWING BY NEVILLE A. LYON.

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GENERAL LAY-OUT PLAN OF SPRINGHEAD ESTATE, NEAR HASLEMERE.

G. ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHT.

DRAWING BY NEVILLE A. LYON.

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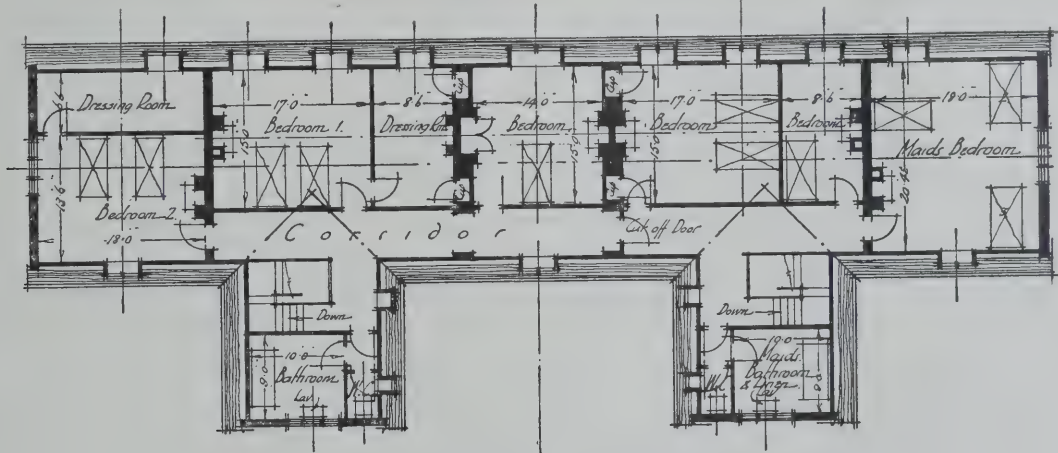
House on the Springhead Estate near Haslemere.

G. Alan Fortescue, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

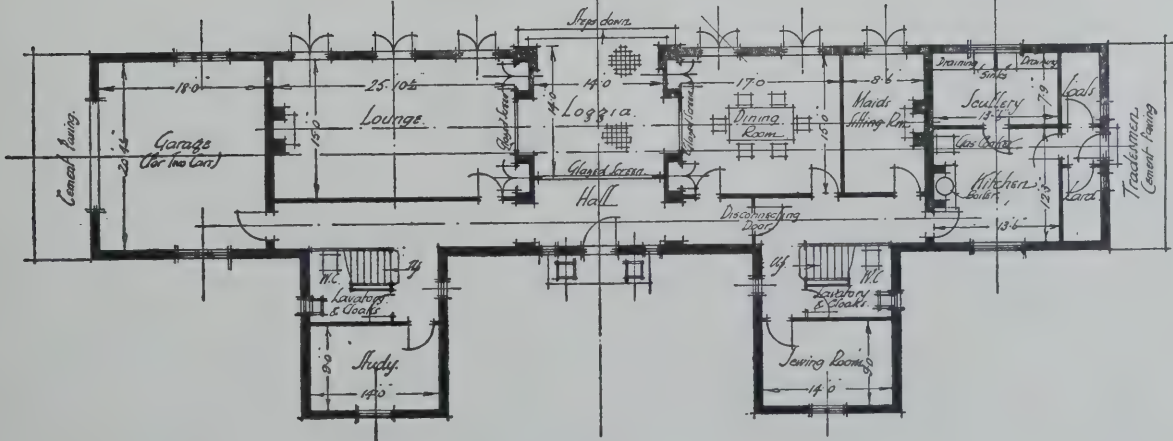


Haslemere is increasing in popularity. It possesses a fine train service to London and the roads of Surrey are noted and appreciated by motorists. Close to Hindhead the countryside hardly needs describing. Hindhead is world-famous for its open moors, commons of gorse and heather, with its glorious views over the Sussex and South Downs. The Springhead Estate has a total acreage of about 50 acres. The soil is a light loam and sand on sandstone rock. Three 18-hole golf courses are within three to five miles from the estate. The house illustrated consists of a lounge and dining-room connected by a sun loggia on the ground floor, with the kitchen and usual offices as shown on the accompanying plans. A garage

for two cars is incorporated under the same roof as the house proper. On the first floor the accommodation includes six bedrooms, two dressing rooms, two bathrooms and two W.C.'s. The walls are built with 9 in. brickwork rendered on the outside with Portland cement stucco in two coats, the last coat is finished with a wood float. The outside is twice distempered with Duresco. The roof is covered with hand-made sand-faced tiles, laid by Roberts, Adlard, London. The windows consist of standard steel casements in wooden frames manufactured by Messrs Crittalls, of Braintree, Essex. The grates are Heap Fire pattern by Messrs. Bratt Colbran, London. The general contractors for the estate are Messrs. Perry & Co.(Bow),Ltd.



First Floor Plan
Terrace



Ground Floor Plan

Notes and Comments.

The Dangers of Isolated Sites.

Men frequently choose sites for building because no other houses adjoin, forgetting that unless they can control the disposal of adjoining sites they may be infinitely worse off than they would be had they taken a site between other buildings. In the latter case they know the worst, in the former they frequently have reason to regret their decision. The country is often very much disfigured by a scattering of buildings separated by open spaces. The alternative seems to be to select sites which are surrounded by a partially-built up area which usually looks better as it becomes filled up by building. If we could induce the public to fill up certain areas before building on untouched country the whole aspect of districts would be improved. An old village is the result of the utilisation of a comparatively limited area which is occupied by buildings often of little marked merit, but which, taken as a whole, are charming and suitable, and as few people now want the trouble and expense of large gardens much might be done in arranging building sites in such a manner that the houses erected on them in some way suggest the charm of the old villages we so greatly admire.

Westminster Property Values.

The present gross value of the City of Westminster reaches a total of £10,500,000, as against a 1921 valuation of £8,800,000, and one of £9,540,000 last April. The Strand district shows an increase of 50 per cent. on the 1921 valuation. These enormous advances are mainly due to the increase of the extension of the commercial area of the city westwards owing to the demands of commerce. The Dominions overseas also have their principle offices in the Westminster area, which is another factor leading to the enormous appreciation in values. But the figures we have quoted are probably without their counterpart in any other district of the Metropolis and afford evidence of the result of the rebuilding we see in the district.

The Wembley Exhibition.

Now that the British Empire Exhibition is closed, the question of the Exhibition buildings becomes acute. We have never seen why it should not be possible to choose a good position for recurrent exhibitions and accommodate them in permanent buildings like those built for the Lyons Fair. But apparently there is no idea of using Wembley in this manner and we are confronted with the problem of clearing a site on which a large number of ferro concrete buildings have been erected, buildings which can only with difficulty be cleared by blowing them up—an expensive and difficult undertaking. We quite agree with the criticism that temporary exhibition buildings are better carried out in steel frame and wood, so that they can easily be dismantled and the material used elsewhere. Ferro concrete, wonderful and useful as it is, is very badly adapted for use in any but permanent structures and it certainly seems a curious thing that this should not have been borne in mind by those who organised the arrangements at Wembley. The only real argument for the use of ferro concrete would be that the buildings erected could be utilised over and over again for a similar purpose on the same site.

The Artillery Memorial.

We do not at all agree with the criticism levelled at Mr. Jagger's Artillery memorial. In the first place, we should be inclined to say that the howitzer which surmounts it, though certainly not beautiful, is not in any way ugly. It gives like a locomotive, the suggestion of force, and surely in a memorial to gunners one of the most characteristic weapons of the time has its fitting place just as the tritreme might have been introduced in a Roman memorial to those who fell in the Punic Wars. We have had in the past a surfeit of allegorical figures which are not understandable without description, but no one catching a glimpse of the Artillery monument could fail to associate it with the late war or the particular arm used by those whom it com-

memorates. The whole treatment seems to us to be marked both with dignity and restraint, it is forceful without being in any way crude or peculiar, and the criticisms which have been levelled at it seem to be almost without meaning.

Wear a Poppy on November 11.

It is somewhat difficult to turn aside from professional activities and thoughts to take heed of interests that are daily passing by. On November 11 Poppy Day will be with us again, and whilst many things have happened during the last seven years, these happenings should not have blunted our appreciation for the many sacrifices made during the Great War so that we, as a nation, might enjoy our individual independence and liberty. These sacrifices have had to be borne by individuals, many of whom could no longer help themselves but have been obliged to rely on the assistance of others who have been more favoured. Reflection will bring it home more forceably than any words spoken or written of how great the sacrifice must be of those many who in times gone by were proud of their abilities and prospects of the future which during the war were all destroyed in the nation's interest.

B.C.A. Conferences.

The third annual conference of the British Confederation of Arts was held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, October 24. Mr. Israel Zangwill, B.A., occupied the chair.

Delegates of many societies representative of the arts of literature, music, drama, architecture, painting, dancing and other related arts and professions were present. The chief speaker was M. José Germain, delegate from the International Confederation of Professional Workers, and the Confederation of Intellectual Workers of France. M. Germain is an officer of the Legion of Honour, President of the Union of Dramatic Authors of France, and of many other important French societies. His speech was an inspiring address on the social and economic advantages of confederation to the associations representing the arts. He illustrated his address by examples of the progress and work in this direction which had been achieved in France and other countries. The Chairman followed with a humorous speech on the present position of literature and the drama in Great Britain. Mr. Cloudeley Brereton elucidated many points by his comments on M. Germain's address, and outlined the important developments and work which had already been achieved in this country through the British Confederation of Arts, acting in conjunction with the National Federation of Professional Workers.

Addresses were given by the President of the Federation of Music Clubs and by a director of the British National Opera Company.

Mr. Walter Bayes, of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours, spoke on the position of painting. Mr. H. V. Lanchester, F.R.I.B.A., addressed the Conference on the relationship of architecture to the movement, and Miss Amelia Defries conveyed fraternal greetings from the American Federation of Arts, and spoke clearly of the difficulties which artists would be able to overcome through confederation. The following resolution was unanimously passed on the motion of representatives of the British Music Society and the International Association of Journalists:—

"This Conference declares its strong belief in the principles and objects for which the British Confederation of Arts, supported by the National Federation of Professional Workers, has been formed, and recommends the Societies represented at the Conference to ally themselves in support of the national and international movement."

A very cordial vote of thanks was given by the Conference to the Chairman and M. Germain for their able services.

Oxford, Cambridge and Architecture.

Sir Michael Sadler, the Master of the University of Oxford, states that it is intended to arrange for two courses of lectures on English and Spanish architecture respectively. At a meeting of the Cambridge University Senate the Rev. Dr. D. H. S. Cranage and Sir William Ridgeway strongly urged that architectural studies should be added to the faculties specified. The School of Architecture now has a separate building and more than 40 students, with an organised staff of teachers.

Some Northumbrian Castles.

By KENNETH GLOVER, F.R.I.B.A.

Illustrated by BYRON DAWSON.

I.—Aydon and Newcastle.



AYDON CASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Though the chief wealth of the county of Northumberland lies in its coalfields and its shipyards, a man, looking at the map, would see that its larger area was agricultural. The industrial part occupies, in fact, only a small south-eastern corner, with a short extension up the coast to include one or two collieries.

It contains many castles; there are certainly twenty of them, not counting the numerous peel towers. Now this is, of course, evidence, tangible enough, of the stormy history of this border land.

I suppose you could divide these castles into two main groups, one south-western and the other northern. Men chose to live, even in those times, where pleasant rivers ran in their valleys, and where the scenery was less austere than in the fells about the Cheviot Hills. Some of the very Cheviot names are forbidding: Hungry Law, Angry-haugh, Windy Gate, Black Hag.

Northumberland is a county containing probably a more diverse scenery than any county in England; so that we find castles, like Bamburgh, rising from the black basalt where the grey sea flings spray upon the ancient walls; like Aydon, watching its lovely ravine; or, like Belsay, standing four-square in open country.

It cannot be matter for surprise that few of these castles have escaped restoration, when the historian tells us how frequently the county was devastated.

"The country between the Humber and the Tyne had been savagely laid waste in suppressing the rebellion of Earl Morcar and remained almost a desert till the foundations of the great Yorkshire monasteries in the twelfth century."

That was at a very early period, but again we read that from 1316 to 1330 "the whole county remained waste, no

one daring to live in it, except under the shadow of a castle or walled town."

The turbulent gentry of Redesdale spent the better part of their time in rounding up other people's cattle, while the film stories of Texan vendettas would pale before a recital of the feuds and forays of the Northumbrian Marches.

Hudson Turner remarked that

"early houses in Northumberland can scarcely be cited as examples of the general mode of construction except in so far as that particular distrust is concerned. This owing to the proximity of the county to Scotland and the danger of sudden attack."

This is generally true, so it is curious that, in Aydon Castle, Northumberland possessed one of the commonly-cited examples of the manor houses of the thirteenth century.

Standing on the precipitous banks of the Cor burn, it is about five miles to the north-west of Hexham. The property originally had belonged to a family which derived its name from the place. The male line failed, and Edward the First gave the heiress, Emma de Aydon, in marriage to Peter de Vallibus, who was probably the builder of the castle about 1380. It later belonged to the Raymeses, the Greys, the Carnabys and the Collinsons, and now belongs to Sir Hugh Blackett of Matfen, Bart.

Whether it be called "castle" or "hall" is a matter of choice, because it is really "a border house carefully fortified."

Mackenzie, writing in 1845, wrote:

"It is now greatly in decay; the situation is formidable and, from the solemnity of its ruins, is at this time strikingly august."

Somehow it is surprisingly "august" for so modest a castle, and de Vallibus either himself had no little architectural idea, or was fortunate in employing some master-mason who had. The disposition of the building on the site, the excellent proportions, the charm and variety of fireplaces and windows, show uncommon skill and artistry.

External chimney shafts in halls were rare even in the first half of the sixteenth century (as we may judge from Leland), but here at Aydon we have a very early example, making a happy effect architecturally. The original external stone stair to the solar still exists, and was evidently covered with a wood pent roof. The stable was constructed entirely of stone, even to the mangers, no doubt with a view to protecting the cattle and horses from fire in any attack by the Scots.

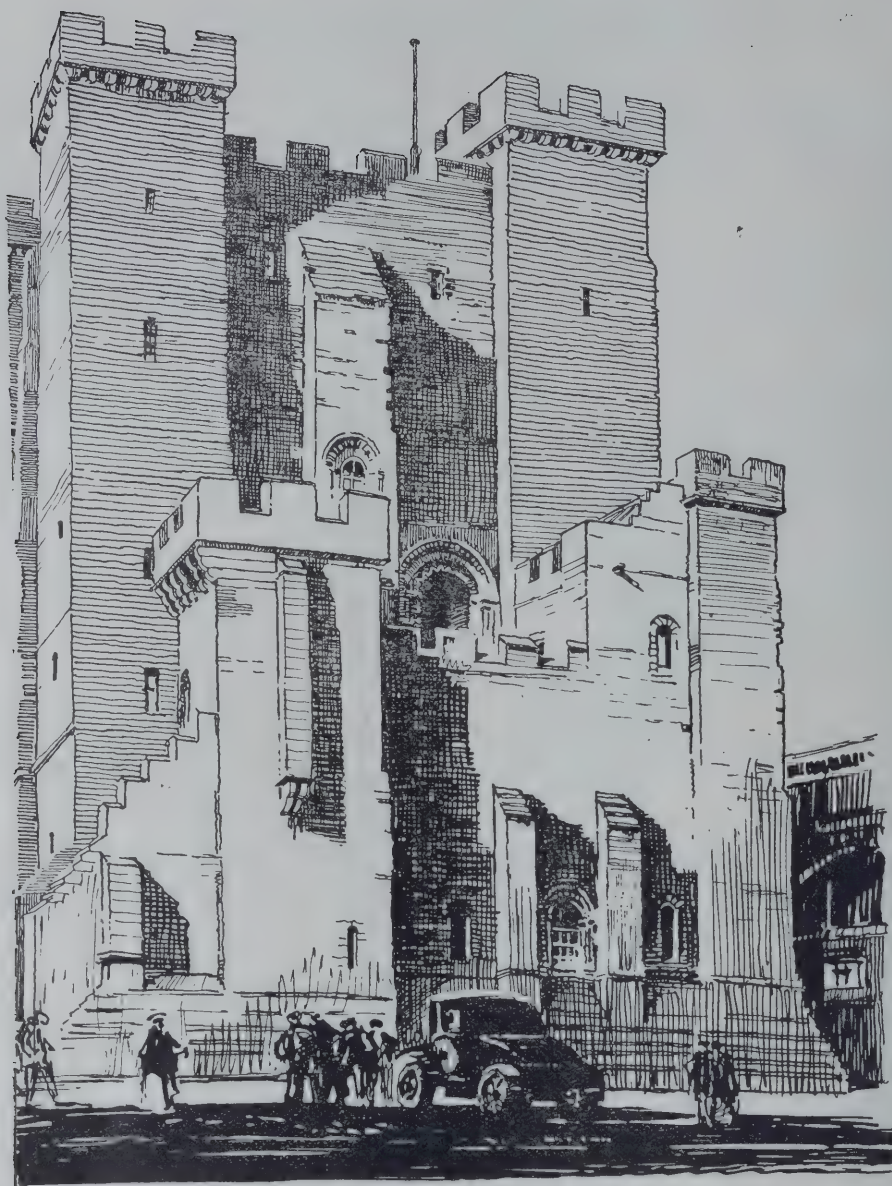
The castle is now used as a farmhouse.

If Aydon was a carefully fortified manor-house, Newcastle, was unmistakably a fortress of formidable strength. The existing remains consist of the original "keep," or donjon, and the fore-building known as the Black-gate. We can best visualise the disposition of the fortress if we imagine the keep as occupying roughly the centre of a triangular bailey, with the apex of the triangle facing north.

It seems probable that there was an inner or chemise wall surrounding the keep at a distance of from twenty to thirty feet.

The north-eastern and south-eastern outer walls of the bailey occupied the brink of precipitous banks, but the western wall was level with the mainland, and was therefore the most vulnerable side. It is typical of the thoughtful planning of the whole fortress that, the Black-gate having to be planned on a changed axis owing to the ground, this factor was taken advantage of in making it command the west wall or receive support from the castle enclosure in turn.

The keep was built between the years 1172-1177 by Henry II, and is therefore a specimen of the transitional style. It is a rectangular mass, 62 feet north to south,



THE KEEP, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. Sketch by BYRON DAWSON.

by about 56 feet east to west, not including the forebuilding. The walls are of immense thickness, being 16 feet thick in some places and 14 feet thick in others. These walls are, however, honeycombed with many mural chambers, garde-robes, staircases, and so on, and surround the great hall on the second floor with its subsidiary halls below on first and ground floors. The outer face of the wall is strengthened by flat pilasters, while the north-western angle of the keep is polygonal.

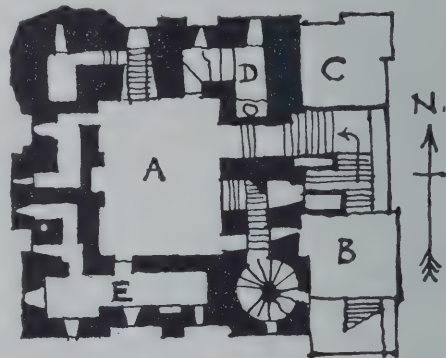
This arrangement served several purposes; it tended to delude besiegers into the belief that this angle contained the staircase, it offered a surface to missiles tending to deflect their course, and it gave a greater actual strength to the corner of the keep adjoining its much-hollowed north wall. This polygonal form was later to give place, as we shall see at Belsay, to corners of circular form in the top storey.

The skill shown in the planning of the Norman keeps appears extraordinary until we recollect a Norman cathedral like Durham; and it is another argument in support of the theories recently propounded by Mr. Martin Shaw Briggs as to the existence of a body of men who were architects—more or less as we understand the word—and not merely master-masons.

The disposition and contriving of the entrance, the arrangements for water-supply and drainage, the ingenuity in staircase planning, the lighting, the beauty of detail in the chapel—all these would evoke admiration in a building devoted to peaceful occupation; and when it is considered that all this had to be done in such a way that the utmost

military safeguards were observed, one's respect for the architect is very sensibly increased.

Not a single Norman keep retains its original finish, and, like the remainder, Newcastle Castle has restored battlements.

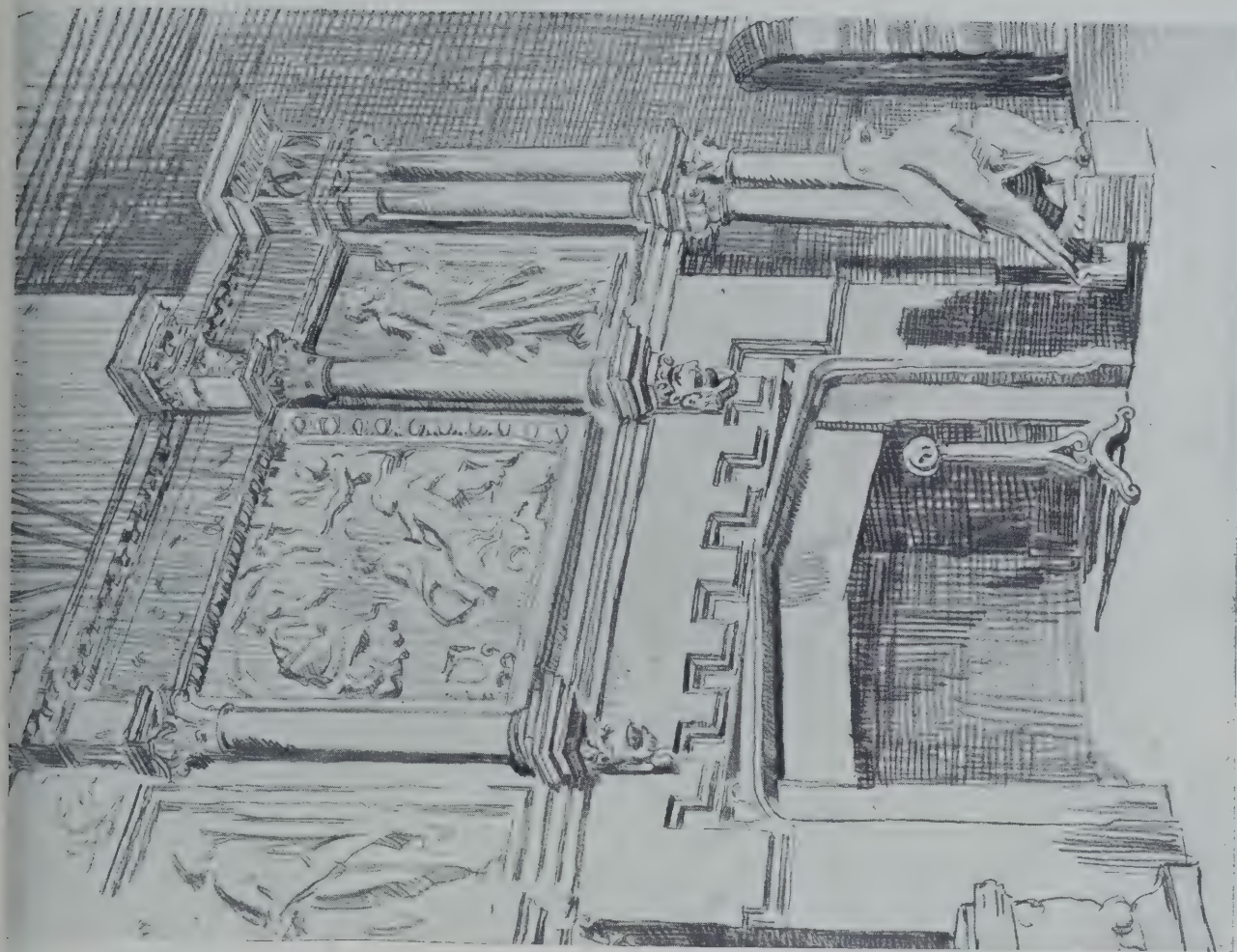


THE KEEP, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

A—The Great Hall. B—Gatehouse. C—Warden's Lodge.
D—Well. E—King's Chamber.

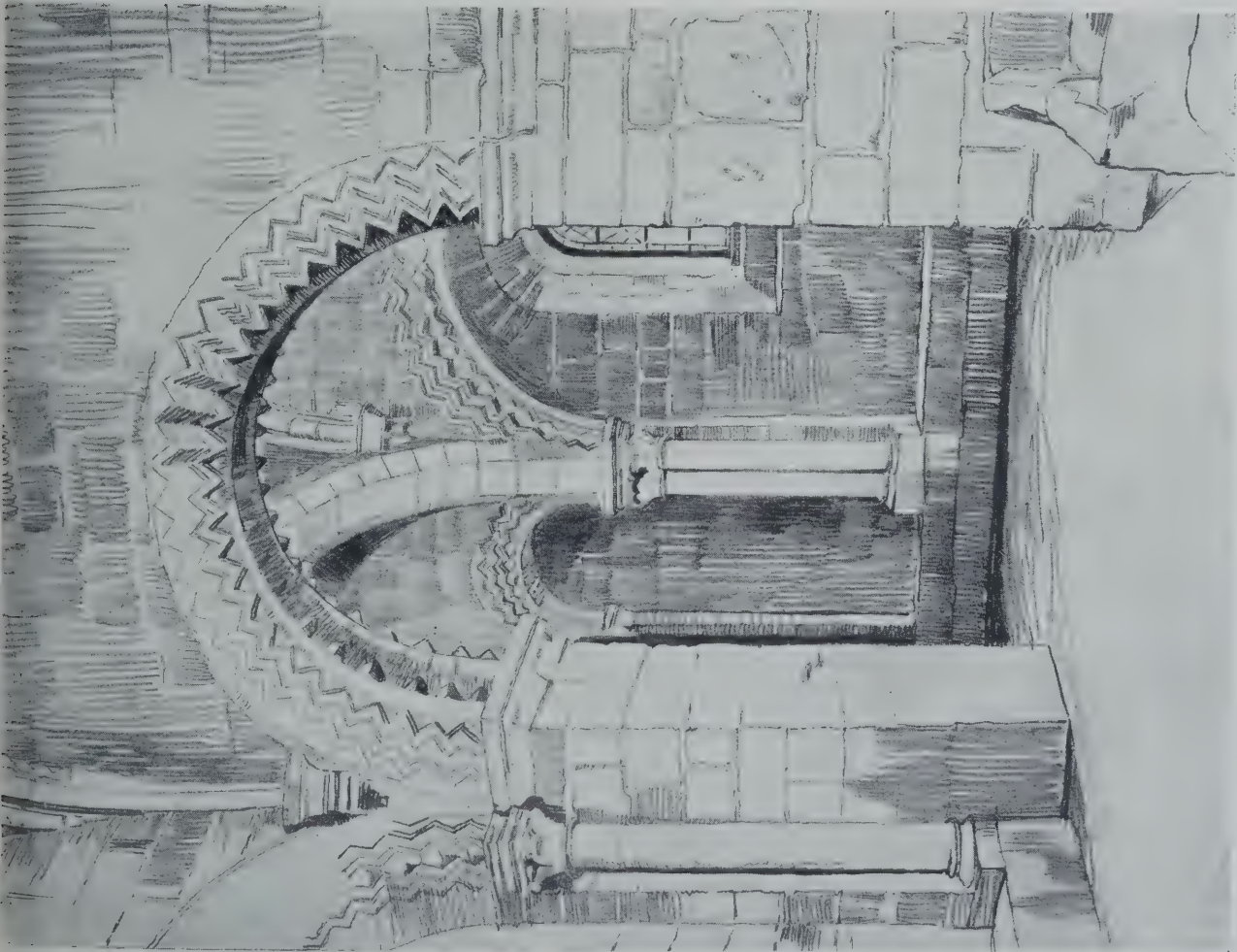
The chapel is a very beautiful one, despite the waywardness of some of the vaulting ribs, which refused to fit properly on to the corbels built to carry them.

In the great Hall is a very fine fireplace and overmantel removed from the Bee Hive Inn on the Sandhill. The stone mantel bears the date 1599, the overmantel is early seventeenth century work.



FIREPLACE, NEWCASTLE CASTLE.

Sketches by BYRON DAWSON.



THE CHAPEL, NEWCASTLE KEEP.

The first-floor chamber is now used as the headquarters of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries, and the castle and Black-gate are both used as museums for that Society.

The collections are very varied and are of extraordinary interest, due to some extent to the proximity of the Roman Wall; frequent visits are necessary to thoroughly examine the whole of the exhibits.

The Black-gate was recently illustrated in the pages in this journal. It was built in 1247. During the reign of Edward I the whole city was fortified, the immensely strong town walls being built and reinforced by gate towers.

The result was that the castle could only be a last resort of a handful of defenders (which, indeed, it was in 1644), and it was therefore allowed to fall into decay.

It remains to-day a striking landmark and a reminder of bygone days, standing close to the cathedral in the busy surroundings of the modern city, and within a few yards of the railway and High Level Bridge.

Could its architect see these modern triumphs of engineering, he would surely feel that it was no mean edifice which he evolved, which serves a useful purpose seven-hundred-and-fifty years after its erection.

Tintern Abbey.

From a Correspondent.

Certain architects, notably Mr. William Woodward, have recently criticised the methods adopted to preserve Tintern Abbey. The following notes upon the temporary supports beneath the arcade of the south wall of the nave are made after a personal investigation of the work already carried out, and from information kindly supplied by responsible officials.

One of the most important structural problems with which His Majesty's Office of Works has had to deal at Tintern Abbey was the strengthening of the south wall of the nave. Its length is 116 feet, height 68 feet, and thickness of the top 5 feet 6 inches. It is supported upon five stone shafts, each of which are eight square feet in sectional area. The top of the wall overhangs approximately 22 inches towards the north.

The dead load is 210 tons, and the load per square foot upon the column masonry is 26.2 tons.

The stresses upon the column shafts are, however, more severe owing to the eccentricity of the load and external forces such as wind pressure. Without wind pressure there is a calculated compressive stress of 81 tons per square foot on the north side of the columns and a tensile stress of 28 tons per square foot on the south side.

With wind blowing from the south assumed at 15 tons per square foot of wall surface the compressive stress of the north side is 129 tons per foot super, and the tensile stress on the south side 77 tons per foot super. The tensile stresses given above would not, of course, occur in masonry, but they are quoted in this form as giving the best indication of the lateral instability of the wall under the effects of dead load, overhang and wind pressure.

Four samples of stone from the Abbey were tested to destruction, the results varying from 165.7 tons per foot super to 468 per foot super cracking stress. The crushing stress was found to be approximately the same as the cracking.

There are numerous signs of failure in the stone columns of the piers and fractures are visible in the shafts and caps.

Failure of foundations is not the cause of the trouble. The masonry has been overloaded and has partially failed.

It was decided after full consideration of several schemes that the only satisfactory method of ensuring the stability of the nave wall was to counteract the overhang by means of efficient ties and to support the vertical load upon a steel stanchion. The tie has been obtained by the provision of a steel frame which is hidden under the roof of the north aisle. There were two possibilities when considering the vertical support:

- (1) To rebuild the piers entirely with new stone,
- (2) To retain the existing stones and to provide in the interior of the piers a steel column.

The policy of the Department when dealing with historic structures is to retain every vestige of the original stonework whenever possible, consequently, the scheme for retaining the original stones with the provision of the steel column

was adopted with the approval of the Ancient Monuments Board.

The strengthening of the nave piers necessitated their removal, and even had it been decided to replace them with new stones, temporary supports to the wall would have been provided.

Schemes, therefore, were prepared for temporary centering of:

- (a) Steel, (b) Timber, and (c) Brick or Stone.

Owing to the very heavy dead load which has to be carried a timber frame would have had to be exceedingly heavy.

A steel frame would have had to be specially designed with the members cut to definite lengths and would be useless after completion of the work.

Temporary brick piers were, therefore, adopted, and it was found upon a comparison of costs that they would, in the end, be far less expensive. Their advantages are:—

- (1) Absolute security and stability could be obtained.
- (2) The materials could be used over and over again in the successive arches of the Arcade as the bricks could easily be cleaned of mortar.
- (3) The bricks could be sold after completion of the work.
- (4) The concrete foundations upon which the brick piers were constructed will be combined with the foundations beneath the steel columns and the former would be stressed and loaded while it was temporarily carrying the nave wall.

The columns are approximately 45 square feet in area and the load is about five tons per square foot.

The brick piers represent a form of construction which, combined with the necessary steel needles, will safely carry the heavy dead load of the nave wall and there is no possibility of failure such as might be the case if a timber frame were employed. The difficulty in dealing with these structures is to ascertain the incidence of the load, and if a timber frame were designed and calculated to bear the total super-imposed load of the nave wall the separate members would have to be of large size, bolted and jointed together in an elaborate manner.

The brick piers are purely temporary and will be removed after the steel stanchions have been inserted in position.

It may be confirmed that there is no doubt as to the necessity of the steel reinforcement. The stones of one pier have been removed and they have been found to be in a most extraordinary state of disintegration. Some stones have been broken into comparatively small pieces and the majority of them have sustained fractures which render them useless for carrying heavy loads. No explanation can be given as to why the south wall of the arcade has remained in position, except under the assumption that the superimposed loads have been transmitted to individual stones which may still retain sufficient area and be in a condition to carry load. It is obvious that such stones must be stressed nearly to a point of cracking.

The R.I.B.A. Presidential Address.

MR. DAWBER said.—To follow such eminent men as we have had as Presidents would be difficult at any time, but in the immediate past years we have had those to preside over the affairs of the Royal Institute who by their attainments and erudition have so marked the epochs during which they held office, that to succeed them in the chair is a great honour and a greater responsibility.

I cannot attempt to emulate the delightful humour, the keen wit and scholarship of our past president, Mr. Gotch, whose addresses will always remain in our memories; nor the peculiar grace and felicitous language of Mr. Paul Waterhouse, whose playful whimsicalities charmed us all; a man whose untimely and sudden death since we last met in this room we all deplore, for by his sound common sense and his geniality he had endeared himself to every one. Which of us who heard it will ever forget the noble eulogium he gave at the Wren Bi-centenary banquet, one of the most remarkable tributes ever paid to the great master of architecture.

Mr. Gotch has for the last two years occupied a unique position in that he is the first architect representing the provinces who has been President, and it must have been a matter of keen gratification to him that he was selected for this honour. His second year of office will always be memorable, for in that year was carried to fruition the work that we trust is for the greatest good of the whole profession—the amalgamation of the Royal Institute and the Society of Architects.

This measure so long wished for, but so long delayed, has at last given to the architectural profession one single and undivided body, which, with its great Federation of Allied Societies in all parts of the United Kingdom and the Empire, is now in a position to speak with authority on behalf of a united profession. Everyone who has had anything to do with this work acknowledges the tact and good feeling shown on both sides, and the generous spirit in which the Society of Architects, whose members we gladly welcome into our ranks, have met us.

The majority of architects in this country look to Registration as a necessary measure for giving to qualified architects the same professional status and protection that are afforded to the other registered professions, and the first use to which our new organisations will be put is the attainment of Statutory Registration.

A Committee is now completing the draft of a Registration Bill, and after the necessary negotiations with other interests concerned are concluded it is the intention of the Institute to promote this Bill in Parliament with the utmost energy until it becomes law. We feel we can rely upon the cordial support of our members and our Allied Societies to see this through.

Now that our differences are settled and a future policy agreed upon, the Institute can devote its energies "to the advancement of Civic Architecture," to quote the words of our Charter—and to education—aims so interwoven that it is difficult to separate them.

One of our most important duties is to maintain a high standard of education in the profession. The Institute is not a teaching body, but through our examination system we are in touch with the teaching given in the recognised schools, not only in Great Britain, but throughout the Empire. The duties of our Board of Architectural Education become every year more onerous and a vast amount of time is given by its members to work which is little known or appreciated. The Board controls the examinations, its members visit and report upon the work of all recognised schools and they arrange the competitions for the valuable bursaries, prizes and scholarships under the authority of the Royal Institute.

During the past few years great changes have been made owing to the increasing number of Universities and Technical Colleges which now include architecture as one of the subjects for degrees and diplomas. In the old days we relied upon external examiners to see that the school standard was equal to that of the Institute examinations, but latterly it has been found impossible to compare by this means the standards reached in various schools working under different conditions. The Institute has therefore set up a small board of architects, who visit all the schools to report upon the staff, curriculum and equipment, and this has been found most helpful to the schools as well as to the Board of Architectural Education.

It is not our aim to mould all the schools after one type, but to encourage and develop the best features in their various courses, and we propose to invite the great Universities, the Board of Education, the London County Council and other bodies, to appoint representatives to sit upon our Board of Architectural Education—to assist us in the non-technical side of our work with their experience. We are convinced this is

the right method to adopt if architectural education is to keep fully abreast of modern requirements.

That these requirements are great I cannot too strongly urge upon the young men taking up the study of architecture to-day. Genius alone may enable a man, to some extent, to avoid the pitfalls of ignorance; but the immense development of new methods of construction, the keen competition and the improving standards of education, demand on the part of the ordinary man the best general technical and artistic training that he can acquire if he is to attain a reasonable amount of success in making a livelihood. I feel very strongly, however, that with all this more or less theoretical training we must not neglect the more practical side of our profession. One of the methods proposed is for students after their course of school training to go direct into an architect's office. If they were to go instead for six months into the workshops and to spend a further period as clerks of works upon some large or even medium-sized building, they would gain practical knowledge and, in my opinion, be better qualified to start practice than by coming straight from the schools or even from an architect's office.

The old system of pupilage doubtless had its drawbacks, and was sometimes greatly abused, but we must not forget that all our greatest architects had their training in this way.

On the general subject of architecture it may seem almost superfluous for me to address you, were it not that long custom has imposed upon your President the responsibility of doing so at the opening of a new session.

A country's history is written in its architecture, and to us it is absorbingly interesting to note how architecture crystallises the tendencies of an age and to mark the extent to which it may, and, indeed must express, the culture of an entire generation. Architecture is not made, it grows out of the necessities and requirements of a nation, and the attitude of the public towards it is to a great extent the social reflex of contemporary civilisation. Without a love and care for art, no nation has ever arrived at any point of eminence.

Architecture as a social art involves a number of conditions which do not exist in an art which is individualistic. This distinction explains other considerations which affect the question of public taste. The fact is there is no measurable truth in art; but few works of art have ever received the unanimous approval of the world. One may safely say that two-thirds of mankind desire to be led and are always on the look-out for a lead; they want to have opinions but have not thought out enough material on which to base them and so readily follow some leader. It is of the greatest importance therefore that the public should cultivate some art sense. The average citizen should demand and appreciate attractive and well arranged cities, beautiful parks and gardens and well designed buildings, for greater interest and appreciation on the part of the public will add new inspiration to the efforts of architects and craftsmen.

But architects should know better than they do the language in which they are writing the history of their time, for however qualified and able they may be, architecture is bound to express the collective taste of the people.

Some say that everything popular must be bad; some urge that the claims of commerce lead to the neglect of good architecture; others that the noble tradition of architecture is being debased by its surrender to purely utilitarian considerations; but few, I am sure, will dispute that one of the most helpful aids towards a better appreciation of architecture to-day is that the great pioneers in trade and commerce are erecting some of the finest modern buildings. Can we, for instance, contemplate the new Bank of England, the Britannic House in Finsbury Square, the new Midland Bank in Cheapside, Lloyd's Exchange, the new Holt building in Liverpool, and many others in London and the provinces, without acknowledging that commercial architecture is rapidly taking a high place in our civic life?

If we think of the buildings that would have been erected for such purposes half-a-century ago we need not be despondent about the future or fail to recognise that amongst our business people, at any rate, an appreciation of architecture is growing.

Some of our critics consider much that is being done in our towns and cities is "ugly, coarse and soulless"—to quote from a letter in "The Times"—and cite the buildings at Wembley and Adelaide House and Wellington Street in the Strand as examples; but may we not, on the other hand, regard these typical specimens of buildings as an endeavour on the part of the designers to get away from the banalities of so-called period architecture and the too slavish imitation of the past? Is it not the fact that the public for so long have been used to this sort of thing that any attempt at originality or a departure from the conventional is bound at first to meet with disapproval?

When we think of the heated discussions we have had this year over the Hudson Memorial and Epstein's "Rima" in Hyde Park, on the one hand, and over Gilbert's fountain and "Eros" in Piccadilly Circus, on the other, does it not make one sceptical as to the value of current opinion regarding any work of art that is new and strange?

Thirty years ago the Shaftesbury Memorial with "Eros" was the butt of criticism as vehement as that levelled at "Rima" to-day. It was a "hideous structure," a "big satire," an "incoherent mass of metal with neither simplicity nor purity of design," and more to the same effect, though some few ahead of the crowd considered the memorial "beyond all question a noble work of art," an opinion which has been fully endorsed by time. To-day "Rima" has been as severely criticised, but in this case, I think, more justly. Does not all this inconsistency of expressed opinion make us wonder whether public taste exists and, if it does, whether it is of any value at all? One is reminded of the remark of Tacitus: "The public is no real judge of what is good or bad."

With regard to Architecture, we should welcome criticism of our work, even friendly abuse, because it is evidence that the public are beginning to take an interest in architecture and to notice what they think are its merits or failings and this is one great step towards their not only demanding but obtaining architecture worth having.

If with improved taste on the part of the public, and better education on the part of architects, we have better buildings in our towns, should be not treat them properly and not disfigure them with vulgar signs and advertisements?

We are living in an age of advertisement; the victory of vulgarity over decent reticence, once the great boast of this country, has of late years seemed to overstep all bounds. There is a place for everything and a right and wrong way of doing things: the place for advertisements is not on buildings and in positions where they are an offence to the eye and an outrage upon public taste. The right way of drawing attention to a product is to enlist the sympathetic consideration of the potential purchaser and not to set his nerves on edge and shock his feelings by forcing the article on him at all times and seasons in the crudest possible manner.

A strident siren deafening our ears would not be tolerated for one minute, yet advertisements that equally offend the eye are accepted without protest.

In many of our towns—London in particular—fine buildings are disfigured and architectural features entirely obliterated by signs and letters many feet high, out of scale with their surroundings, spoiling and vulgarising the whole façade. Think of what our streets would be if all the names and advertisements were confined to the fascia board only—all, so to speak, hung on the line! What a comparatively agreeable picture gallery they would become!

If this is the case in our towns and cities, what of the country? How continually we see roadsides and villages marred by notice boards, advertising some patent medicine, tea or whisky, with a repetition that actually defeats its own object. A few years ago nobody would have dreamt of advertising in this manner, but to-day everybody is allowed, apparently without any control, to display hideous advertisements, spoiling the rural character of the land. But, happily, there are indications that matters are changing for the better. As an instance of what can be done, take the beautiful road beside the River Wye between Chepstow and Tintern, which for some years past had been greatly marred by advertisements actually plastered on the rocks and ruining this stretch of typical English scenery. This was Crown property, and one of our more public-spirited members in that district wrote to the Office of Woods and Forests urging that this disfigurement should be discontinued, with the result that the Commissioners issued instructions to the lessee that it should be stopped at once.

The great oil firms, owing to public protests, have to a great extent withdrawn their unsightly hoardings from the fields, and at length, after many years of Parliamentary difficulties, the Advertisements Regulation Act of 1907 has been amended and this session has received the Royal assent. The new Act is the outcome of conferences between the Scapa Society and the advertising section of the London Chamber of Commerce, who acted for the great bill-posting organisations throughout the country, and it has been helped forward by the friendly sympathy of the Home Office, the Ministry of Health and the County Councils Association. In order that the charm of country prospects may no longer be destroyed by the callous advertiser, it now remains for the local authorities to use their powers to their full extent and for country residents and wayfarers to urge action.

The thanks of the whole community are due to the Scapa Society for their unremitting efforts in this direction, efforts which have now been crowned with success.

It seems a pity that steps have not been taken by the Ministry

of Transport to safeguard from the display of advertisements the great new roads that are now being constructed, for here there is an opportunity of making these highways, if free from hoardings, and with houses and buildings well designed and arranged on either side, unique in their dignity and beauty. More consideration should also be given to their junctions with existing roads, where splendid opportunities are being missed for fine traffic centres, planned with dignified buildings around them.

A tax on advertisements, as in France and other countries, would not only serve as a source of income to the State, but as a deterrent to many who advertise in a vulgar manner. The whole attitude towards this question is becoming much more hopeful, and in years to come we may expect to see advertisements treated in a thoroughly artistic manner.

Now when we turn to our old villages and country towns the position is not so hopeful. Too often we see villages, whose rustic character is their chief charm and attraction, being spoiled by new erections that ape the worst features of our city buildings and are intrinsically out of place. Yet all this is being done under the mistaken idea that progress is being made.

England possesses exquisite old villages and country towns, some of the most beautiful in the world. They are a unique and priceless heritage, the admiration and envy of all who visit our shores, that should be preserved at all costs; but it is no exaggeration to say that in half a century's time, at the rate so-called improvements are being made, the destruction of almost all the beauty and distinction with which our ancestors enhanced these towns and villages will be complete.

There are, it is true, the town-planning powers conferred on local authorities by Mr. John Burns. They have, however, been adopted but slowly, and as regards matters of amenity they have been used and administered with far too much timidity. During the last Session of Parliament the statutes were consolidated in a new Act embodying the various amendments made since 1909. The general effect of these has been to simplify procedure and extend the scope of the original Act, while increasing the power of the Minister of Health to enforce its use.

It is to be hoped that the measure needed to extend town-planning powers to the built-up areas of towns, which the Minister has expressed his intention of introducing, will be passed into law at an early date, with any amendment found necessary to make the present Act effective as a means of preserving the amenities of a district.

It is essential that the members of this Institute and the public generally should support the extension of this beneficent work, and should insist on a vigorous administration of all existing powers on the part of local authorities and the central Government.

In the carrying out of their duties under the Housing Acts the various municipalities have a great responsibility. In many cases we see houses and layouts which are to be commended in every way, suitable to the district, of good local materials, comfortable, well planned and designed, and adding to the amenities of the countryside. Those which reach this standard are, unfortunately, the exception. Local authorities, who since 1923 have been freed from much central guidance and control in such matters, are too often neglecting to maintain a decent standard of design in their housing work. Certain it is that, either for lack of proper control, or through want of care or designing ability, whole districts are being disfigured by small buildings placed promiscuously by the roadsides, built without the slightest regard to their position or the character of the site, of inharmonious materials and inappropriate design. I am not unmindful of the difficulties which at present beset building enterprise, and make full allowance for them, but I say that a people who tolerate without protest such disregard for amenity must have lost that sense of seemliness which is at the root of proper civic pride; one wonders whether they are utterly oblivious to their surroundings.

Our great railway companies are advertising the beauties and attractions of the towns and districts served by their lines, and at the same time encouraging art by commissioning painters of note to design posters depicting various types of landscape charm; but what is the use of these efforts by the railway companies if the local authorities do not realise their responsibilities and allow buildings to be erected which are wholly out of harmony with their surroundings?

The acquisition of a piece of land should not give to the purchaser an immoral right to erect any building which will prove to be a disfigurement and eyesore in surroundings of beauty and grandeur.

Our pictures and other national treasures of art are carefully housed and entrusted to the care of experts to safeguard and prevent their being tampered with—pictures expressive of the centuries in which they were painted, but, after all, only seen and

enjoyed by the comparative few who can appreciate them. Our villages and towns, on the other hand, are seen by everybody and are a part of the actual life of their inhabitants, of the people whose taste is being daily formed by the environment in which they dwell. Yet the artistic care of villages and towns we hand over without thought to the safe keeping of those who have no special qualifications for the work, and who, with the best intentions, lamentably betray their trust.

We build magnificent roads, we pave our streets and have the most efficient and up-to-date systems of drainage; we lay on water, gas and electricity and all that makes for the material comfort of life, and yet with all this we neglect the æsthetic side, the cultivation of the beautiful and all that gives real and lasting pleasure to those who dwell in the country. When we think that day by day all over England old buildings are being pulled down without protest, to make way for new buildings—the majority without the least beauty or fitness—it makes us marvel at our folly in allowing to be swept away the old work which tells the history and tradition of our country in every town and village throughout the land.

I feel we owe a debt of gratitude to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings for the energetic action and protests they so consistently make against such vandalism. To what a state of apathy have we fallen in England to-day when we can allow without protest the gradual demolition of an old historical building like Warwick Priory, with all its traditions and associations, and the shell only to be rescued by an enterprising American who is pulling it down stone by stone for re-erection in America, where it may stand as a lasting reproach to our crass indifference in parting with one of these irreplaceable heritages of the past. Truly did the late Lord Curzon write in his will that he was "convinced that beautiful and ancient buildings which recall the life and customs of the past are not only historical documents of extreme value, but are a part of the spiritual and æsthetic heritage of a nation, imbuing it with reverence and educating its taste."

It seems to be forgotten that throughout the country every district had up to the close of the eighteenth century and even later its own individual character and traditional methods of building, partly owing to the local material available. This gave a special and pleasing distinction to the country side, and at a glance one could recognise the architecture of any part of England.

Now all this is altered. The introduction of railways changed to a great extent the local character of building, by enabling cheaper materials to be brought long distances to districts where they were unknown. The introduction of machine manufactured joiners' and smiths' work has displaced the local craftsman, and to a very great extent the enforcement of building by-laws—necessary in towns and cities perhaps, but needless and foolish in a great measure under the different conditions of country life—have all continued to alter village architecture; but as much as anything the advent of the motor car, with its growth of restlessness and constant change of place, has not only been responsible for the change in country life, but has made people unwilling to spend money on their houses, or to make their permanent abodes of architectural value, cheapness having become the one object to be attained.

Think of our old villages to-day in every part of the country, with the constant succession of motor cars streaming through as if on business of life and death, their occupants regardless of the comfort and quiet of those who live in them and not even troubling to look at the buildings they pass by. Speed and yet increasing speed seems to be the cry and everything apparently has to give way to this.

The policy of the new road makers apparently is to sweep away everything that stands in the way of speed, the old winding picturesque lanes are widened and straightened, miles of unnecessary concrete curbing are laid on either side of the old grass bordered highways—for paths that have never been needed in the past—magnificent trees are cut down, so that corners can be rounded and the entrance to every village is vulgarised by oil pumping stations and advertisements, so as to enable greater speed and haste to be obtained by the motorist.

Can it be wondered at that all regard to old buildings or villages is in danger of becoming a thing of the past?

I should like to quote here some recent words of Professor Lethaby, who truly says: "The England that we love is the England of old towns, tilled fields, little rivers, farms, churches and cottages. If by violently marring the fair country and vulgarising the shy old buildings, we obtain so much less to love, what shall it profit? Without an England to love we cannot remain stout of heart and enduring. Civilisation cannot be had merely as a word—it rests on foundations."

I am sure the majority of people deplore the changes to which I have referred, changes taking place so rapidly throughout the

country, but a united and systematic effort on the part of architects and local authorities might do something to preserve the still remaining charm of the country.

In certain towns and districts there might be formed small Civic Committees, annually elected by the ratepayers, whose duty it would be to try and foster wider interests in their localities, their historical traditions, and their general amenities and architecture. They would enter on their task, not in any spirit of fussy interference, or the pushing of fads, but might help by suggestions and advice. The functions at first might be only advisory, but they would in time set up a sort of commission to which it would be a privilege and honour to belong. The annual elections would ensure that the work did not get into a groove, and the members would have no self-interested motives.

On every committee there might be an architect, selected for his knowledge of the architecture and traditional buildings of the locality, and care should be taken to elect if possible only those who took an interest in their town or village, and were actuated by a sense of civic pride. In case of any matters of importance power should be given to call in the Commission of Fine Arts to give counsel.

This may sound Utopian, but there are already many societies of this nature, acting without elected authority, who are doing admirable and most helpful work in Birmingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Norwich, Stratford-on-Avon, Coventry and other places.

At first the establishment of such committees might be regarded with suspicion, any interference with the liberty of people would be resented, but if it were felt that the advice was purely for the general and artistic welfare of the place, their help would in time not only be respected, but invited.

We realise that changes must take place, the constant stream of visitors and trippers brought in cars and charabancs to our villages and out-of-the-way corners of England are all destroying their old-world charm and last vestiges of remoteness—but these changes would modernise them more harmoniously if carried out under careful and sympathetic guidance.

We have surely passed the time when it is said "What is the use of calling attention to such things, they will be done whatever protests are made and we must accept them"—but why should we? Great changes and improvements are taking place every day, societies are springing up for the promotion of objects unheard of years ago, the tidying up of our towns and villages, the prevention of litter and rubbish, and all matters tending to familiarise our people from their childhood with ugliness and disorder and vitiating the taste of the entire nation.

Many may say these things are too trivial to speak of—not worth the attention of a great Institute such as this—but is it really so? Are we not, as architects, all keenly interested in the welfare of our country, in its beauty, its buildings and everything that tends to make it more attractive, more wholesome and more joy giving.

At the present time architecture and decorative building, town planning and schemes for housing are engaging the careful attention of all nations, and it is for this Institute to show, by the work of its members, that it is standing for England in the forefront of this movement.

Architecture is everybody's business, and the public have the strongest possible interest in being served by a competent body of men. It is essentially a social matter and the unqualified or unskilful architect may do something far worse than waste his client's money. He may be inflicting irreparable damage on a beautiful site, or marring an otherwise harmonious street and so injuring the work of others with more artistic vision.

It is for members, therefore, of this Royal Institute of British Architects to realise the responsibility that rests upon them and to devote all their powers and skill to the "advancement of Civic Architecture."

Sir Frank Short and Sir Reginald Blomfield afterwards spoke in appreciation of Mr. Dawber's address.

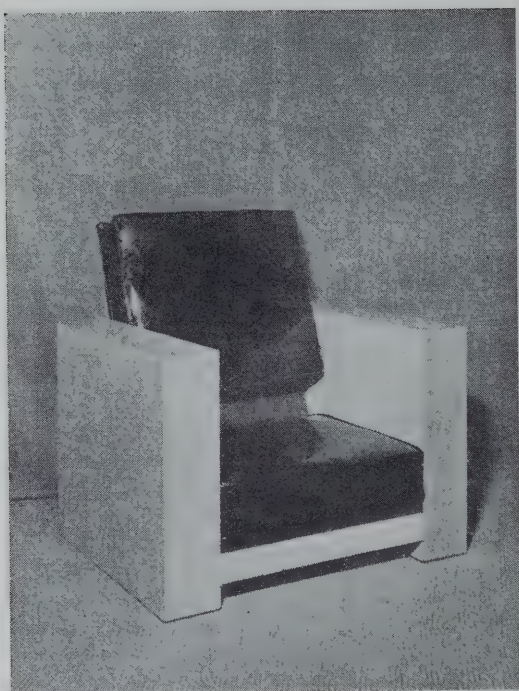
LEE.—Plans passed by L.C.C.: 82 houses, Dallinger Road, for Messrs. G. Lansdown & Brown; 9 houses, Fairfield Road, for Messrs. Henry Dawson & Son; 5 houses, Chinbrook Road, for Messrs. Kenneth Brown; factory, Manor Lane, for Mr. W. Doddington; 10 houses, Weigal Road, for Messrs. Hosking Bros.; development of seven acres at Baring Road, for Mr. A. Durbin; 4 houses, Ashwater Road, for Messrs. Eaglen Bros.

UXBRIDGE.—The Middlesex Education Committee have decided to erect an elementary school for 400 children in Uxbridge, and also to use the buildings of the County School, The Greenway, for elementary school purposes.

WADHURST.—Col. Sir G. L. Courthorpe, M.P., has asked his architect, Major Streatfield, to prepare plans for 12 workmen's houses to be erected at Wadhurst.

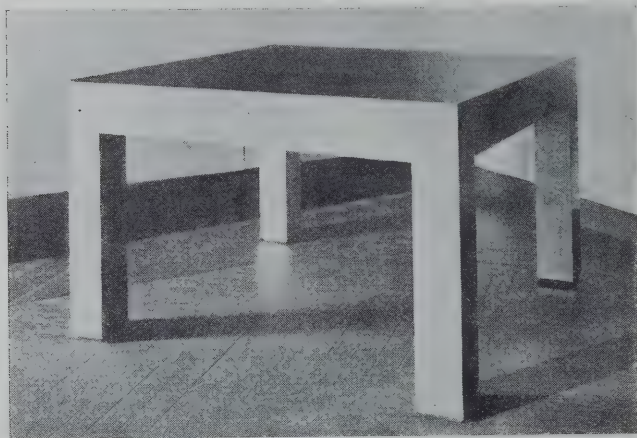
Book Reviews.

"The Modern Style."*



ARMCHAIR. By PIERRE LEGRAIN.

A portfolio of photographic views and drawings published under the above title is an apposite illustration of the new note in design to which Sir Laurence Weaver referred in his letter to "The Times," a note which he is anxious that we should follow in order that we may not lose trade. We have studied these designs, which are by French architects and designers, and can only describe them as



DINING ROOM TABLE. By ROBERT DELAUNAY.

standing condemned by any standard of sanity and good taste which we know of. As to trade, we think that if we followed Sir Laurence Weaver's advice, we might well be in the position of the dog who dropped his bone to seize its reflection in the stream. That is, we should lose the home market in our endeavour to snatch a small share of the foreign one, for we are convinced that the average Englishman will never be attracted by these crude and bizarre fancies. Pianos are notably frequently indifferently designed, but who would really prefer the crude and coarse monstrosity designed by M. René Prou to the trade product of which it is considered an improvement? Do we really want tables like that of M. Robert Delaunay, which might represent an altar in the Stone Age? Do we find the artist's house of M. Jules Périard attractive,

*"The Modern Style." Messrs. Ernest Benn, Ltd., Bouverie Street. 26s. net.

and are we pleased with the dining-room chairs of M. Robert Delaunay, or the villa of M. André Lurçat?

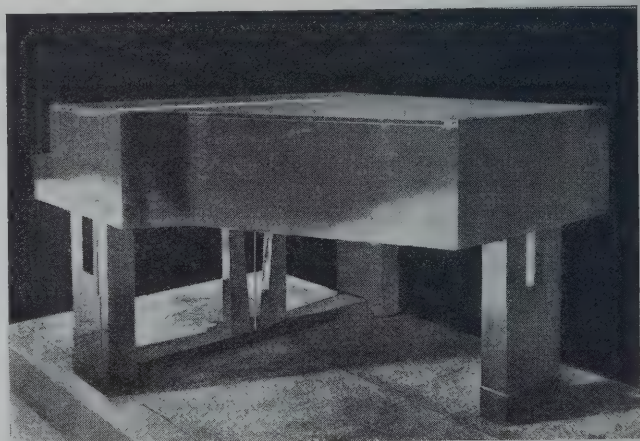
We do not know what Sir Laurence Weaver would or could say in defence of these outcomes of the new spirit or manner of design, but we are quite sure that neither the buildings nor furniture we illustrate would be "paying propositions" here. Several of them resemble the sort of thing which would be fashioned by small children in



A VILLA. By ANDRE LURCAT.

plasticene. We do not think there is any practical gain in eliminating all moulded or carved forms or ornament. Surfaces still remain to be dusted and cleaned, and there is certainly nothing to please the eye or to delight the fancy.

At the same time, the book is an interesting and useful one and well worth purchasing—not for purposes of imitation, but as a warning and a reminder that even in art matters there is a movement towards the goal of Nihilism.



PIANO. By RENE PROU.

The portfolio is very useful as it contains a wide representative set of examples of buildings and furniture. Had it consisted of a few illustrations and a good deal of letterpress it would not serve the same purpose. Those who have eyes to see can judge from this collection whether any



A VILLA BY THE SEA. By Mallet-Stephens.

tangible good has come from throwing aside tradition and what carefully developed eccentricity in design leads to. The compilers of the book have shown faith and courage in producing it and Messrs. Benn are to be congratulated on their broadmindedness in publishing a collection of work which should serve us as a warning.



AN ARTIST'S HOUSE. By Jules Perillard.

"English Rooms and Their Decoration at a Glance." Vol. I. By Charles H. Hayward, "Architectural Press." 5s. net.

So soon as an author or publisher attempts to serve a definite purpose with any publication he automatically limits his field of public interest. To be of use to any professional craftsman it is necessary to delve below the surface and bring to light details which will inspire interest. Those who have made a careful study of the period dealt with in Mr. Hayward's book entitled as above will not be inspired by the illustrations, though we do not question the selection made, but the method by which they are shown. The volume contains no diagrams with the measurements given, either with the illustrations or below in the foot-notes. If one examines the drawings carefully it is very difficult to form any comprehensive idea of what surface modelling the ornamental details may possess. Selecting an example at random, Fig. 30, page 62, illustrates staircase at Beachampton Farm, early seventeenth century. The artist has not grasped the beauty

of his subject; on the contrary, he appears to have been engrossed with the idea of presenting the effect of elaborately carved details. On the opposite page a number of features are rendered singly; no dimensions are given. One section of the handrail is included, but without any indication of the scale to which the drawings are made. The illustrations are for practical purposes nearly useless. The same remarks apply to Figs. 41 and 42 on the following pages.

Artistic Craftsmanship Exhibition at the Brook Street Galleries.

An interesting exhibition of artistic craftsmanship was opened at the Brook Street Galleries, New Bond Street, W., on November 4. Miss Phyllis Barron is showing examples of her wood-block printed fabrics. Architects will find a fine and varied collection of designs printed on many different textured fabrics. The designs are new and original in character, having been produced and printed by Miss Phyllis Barron at her studio in Parkhill Road, N.W.3. Miss Barron has experienced the lot of hundreds of others. After enjoying a first-class education at one of the best art schools in London, she discovered that for practical purposes her knowledge was of little use to the manufacturing community. She, with hundreds of others, had spent years of valuable time in intensive study. Professors, experts and lecturers have propounded their ideas to the art classes well attended by students. The main idea has been to teach the students how to design all the subjects that will never arise in practical life, executed in materials and colours far beyond the financial means of any client or industry. No thought seems to be given to training students to design beautiful patterns within the scope of commercial enterprise. None of the professors take interest in the fashions of the hour. Neither are the circumstances which govern the selection of the designs that are offered to the public considered by the educationists. The student is left to face the world with ideas that are utterly impossible. Miss Barron was inspired to rise above all the circumstances that surround and engulf so many. She conceived the idea of making a careful study of the old pre-machinery methods of wood-block printing, with the result that for a number of years she has been producing some truly beautiful work, suitable for many purposes. A visit to the exhibition may quite reasonably solve many difficulties that architects have in connection with decorative schemes.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

NOVEMBER 6, 1875.

THE MAGASINS RÉUNIS, PARIS.

A curious sight is to be seen in Paris at the present moment, says the Paris correspondent of the "Times"—namely, English workmen busily transforming one of the largest blocks of buildings. In this city of palaces many visitors must have noticed a fine architectural construction in the Place du Château d'Eau, bearing upon its façade, in half-obliterated letters, the inscription "Magasins Réunis." These shops were the first and last attempt at co-operative trading in Paris, and were built some twelve or fourteen years ago. They were started on a principle by which a purchaser received, when paying his money, a bond for the sum, to be redeemed in fifty years' time. But somehow or other the system did not work. The company lost heavily—one shareholder as much, it is said, as 4,000,000 francs, and the Magasins Réunis were closed. Various attempts have since been made to utilise the large quadrangular court. A lion tamer exhibited there for some time. The rejected of the *salon* tried to draw the public to see their despised works of art, but all to no purpose. At last an enterprising American circus proprietor, Mr. Myers, conceived the idea of turning the court into what will be the largest hippodrome in the world, since it will hold over 6,000 persons. Mr. Myers, possibly distrusting French transformation scenes, has summoned Messrs. Defries, of London, the well-known decorators, to change the appearance of the place, and so the Magasins Réunis are filled with English workmen competing with the French in what is supposed to be their own peculiar line—decorative art.

Some Architectural Epitaphs.

By C. Edgar Thomas.

The study of epitaphs is a most fascinating and absorbing one, and one that is as captivating and instructive as it is fascinating. A desire to perpetuate the memory of the departed being natural to all mankind, the practice of placing inscriptions over their graves has found favour among all peoples in all ages. Again, no form of literary composition is more difficult to execute effectively than a really good epitaph, for so much has to be concentrated into a comparatively small space that the stock-in-trade of the epitaph writer necessitates the very essence of literary acumen.

Practically all trades and professions have in the past been assailed by the epitaph writer, and the architect and builder have proved to be no exception. Perhaps a classic among architectural epitaphs is to be found in the well-known lines on Sir John Vanbrugh, the architect who designed Blenheim Palace for John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough:—

"Lie heavy on him, earth; for he
Laid many a heavy load on thee."

It is at once brief, neat, and witty. Another, dating from 1694, is still to be seen at Sarnsfield. It commemorates one John Abel, architect, and runs:—

"This craggy stone a covering is for an architect's bed
That lofty buildings raised high, yet now lies low his head.
His line and rule, so death concludes, are locked up in stone,
Build they that list or they that wist for he can build no more.

His house of clay could hold no longer,
May heaven's joy build him a stronger."

At Gateshead a Newcastle architect has thus been immortalised:—

"Here lies Robert Trollope,
Who made yon stones roll up:
When death took his soul up
His body filled this hole up."

Trollope, it may be added in explanation of the second line, built the Exchange and Town Court of Newcastle.

But there are not a large number of epitaphs to architects. From this fact may not we generously conclude that they are a modest set of men as a class? It is otherwise with those following cognate callings. For instance, a stonemason is remembered by these lines on a Berkshire tombstone:—

"Stop, reader, here; be not deceived; I'll tell ye;
This good man died, indebted to his belly;
His heart, like to his trade, was hard as stone;
He lov'd his wife, but starv'd his eldest son!
Tho' call'd above, a Church of England lover,
He knew no more on't than the words discover:
Thus, without merit, to advance his praise,
Ambitious Tom this monument did raise."

Tom was the stonemason's youngest son, whom he had made his heir. In a village churchyard near to Bath an inscription to two stonemasons records a sad and melancholy accident. It is

"To the Memory of
Thomas and Richard Fry,
Stonemasons,

Who were crushed to death August 25th, 1776, by the
slip-down of a wall they were in the act of building.

Thomas was aged 19, and Richard 21 years.

A sacred truth! now learn our awful fate!
Dear friends, we were first cousins, and what not—
To toil as masons was our humble lot;
As just returning from a house of call,
The parson bade us set about his wall!
Flushed with good liquor, cheerfully we strove,
To place big stones below, and big above;
We made too quick work—down the fabric came,
It crush'd our vitals—people bawled out, shame!

But we heard nothing—mute as fish we lay,
And shall lie sprawling till the judgment-day.
From our misfortune this good moral know,
Never to work too fast, or drink too slow."

Carpenters have in the past been treated with almost prodigal care by the old-time epitaph writer. Here is an inscription to one John Spong, a jobbing carpenter who died in 1746 and was buried at Ockham, Surrey. His epitaph is interesting for its clever analogy:—

"Who many a sturdy oak has laid along,
Fell'd by death, surer hatchet, here lies Spong,
Posts oft he made, yet ne'er a place could get,
And liv'd by railing, tho' he was not wit;
Old saws he had, altho' no antiquarian,
And styles corrected, yet was no grammarian:
Long liv'd he Ockham's premier architect
And lasting as his fame a tomb't erect,
In vain we seek an artist such as he,
Whose pale and gates were for eternity.
So here he rests from life's toil and follies,
O! spare kind Heav'n his fellow lab'rer Hollies."

It is interesting to remember that Spong lived at a time when the village carpenter could not, as now, buy his boards already sawn and seasoned, but had to go into the woods, select his trees, cut them down, and take them on a lorry to his yard. Here with the aid of an under-sawyer, the trunks were laid over the saw-pit, and with himself as top-sawyer they were cut into posts, planks, and boards, afterwards being set up for so many months for the purposes of weathering and drying. Another carpenter's epitaph exists at Longnor, Salop. It runs:—

"In memory of Samuel Bagshaw, late of Harding-Booth,
who departed this life June the 5th, 1787, aged
71 years.

Beneath lie mouldering into Dust
A Carpenter's remains.
A Man laborious, honest, just,
His character sustains
In Seventy-one revolving years,
He sowed no seeds of strife;
With ax and Saw, Line, Rule and Square,
Employed his careful life.
But death who view'd his peaceful lot
His tree of life assail'd.
His grave was made upon this spot,
And his last Bench he nailed."

John Sims, yet another timber knight, appears to have written his own mural lines, which, as will be seen, are taken up with an account of his last illness:—

"Hear from the tomb the warning voice of truth!
A lingering malady consumed my youth—
John Sims my name, a carpenter's my trade;
With half confessions, like a blushing maid,
To a fam'd Leech I humbly did apply,
Though no one knew the cause or reason why—
His sovereign cordials flow'd from me in vain,
His pills procur'd me only change of pain—
So next I dragg'd my steps to Doctor Greedy,
Who made me ten times worse, and still more needy.
Worn to a stump I sought the Reverend Jay,
Not in the pill, but in the spiritual way—
He cleans'd my inward man, he heard my sigh,
Preach'd down my quacks, and taught me how to die."

A tinsplate worker may next be cited. On a Surrey tombstone, dating from 1737, this worthy is thus remembered:

"Underneath this stone doth lye
The bodye of Mr. Humpherie
Jones, who was of late
By trade a plate
Worker in Barbicanne,
Well known to be a good manne
By all his friends and neighbours too

And paid every bodye their due
He died in the year 1737
August the 10th aged 80 ;
His soul's we hope in heaven."

There are several curious specimens of engineers' epitaphs extant, and one from the churchyard of Bridgeford-on-the-Hill, Nottinghamshire, is perhaps worth recording :

"Sacred to the Memory of John Walker, the only son of Benjamin and Ann Walker, Engineer and Palisade maker, died September 22nd, 1832, aged 36 years.

Farewell my wife and father dear ;
My glass is run, my work is done,
And now my head lies quiet here.
That many an engine I've set up,
And got great praise from men,
I made them work on British ground,
And on the roaring seas ;
My engine's stopped, my valves are bad,
And lie so deep within ;
No engineer could there be found
To put me new ones in."

Another—an exceedingly clever composition—may still be read in Bromsgrove churchyard. It dates from 1840 :

"My engine now is cold and still,
No water does my boiler fill ;
My coke affords its flame no more,
My days of usefulness are o'er ;
My wheels deny their noted speed,
No more my guiding hand they need ;
My whistle, too, has lost its tone,
Its shrill and thrilling sounds are gone ;
My valves are now thrown open wide,
My flanges all refuse to guide,
My clacks also, though once so strong,
Refuse to aid the busy throng ;
No more I feel each urging breath ;
My steam is now condensed in death.
Life's railway o'er, each station's passed,
In death I'm stopped, and rest at last.
Farewell, dear friends, and cease to weep :
In Christ I'm safe ; in Him I sleep."

At Hessle, Hull, there is the following inscription to the memory of George Pussick, a plumber and glazier :

"Adieu, my friend, my thread of life is spun,
The diamond will not cut, the solder will not run,
My body's turned to ashes, my grief and trouble past,
I've left no one to worldly care, and I shall rise at last."

A brickmaker of Aliscombe, Devonshire, has thus been commemorated in the graveyard of that village :—

"Here lies the remains of James Pady, brickmaker, late of this parish. In hopes that his clay will be remoulded in a workmanlike manner far superior to his former perishable materials.

Keep death and judgment always in your eye,
Or else the devil off with you will fly,
And in his kiln with brimstone ever fry.
If you neglect the narrow road to seek
You'll be rejected like a half-burnt brick."

At Iver, Buckinghamshire, another brickmaker has been remembered :—

"Beneath this place lyes interred the Body of Venterus Mandey, of the parish of St. Giles in the Fields, in the County of Middlesex, Brickmaker : son of Michael Mandey, Brickmaker, who had ye honour of being Brickmaker and Bricklayer to the Honble. Society of Lincoln's Inn, from the year of Our Lord 1667, to the day of his death. He was studious in the Mathematicks, and wrote and published three books for Publick good : one entitled Mellificium Mensionis, or the Marrow of Measuring ; another of Mechanic Powers, or the Mystery of Nature and Art unvayled ; the third, An universal Mathematical Synopsis. He also translated into English, Directorium Generale Uranometricum, and Trigonometria

Plana et Sphærica, Linearis et Logarithmica : Auctore Fr. Bonaventura Cavalerio, Mediolanensi ; and some other tracts which he designed to have printed if Death had not prevented him. He dyed the 26th day of July, a.d. 1701, aged 56 years and upwards.

He also gave Five pounds to the poor of this parish."

The next rather cynical verse, which is to be seen at Walcot, Norfolk, is engraved upon the tombstone of another old-time brick and tile maker :

"In memory of

WILLIAM WISEMAN,

Who died 5th August, 1834, aged 72 years.

Under this marble, or under this sill,
Or under this turf, or e'en what you will,
Whatever an heir, or a friend in his stead,
Or any good creature, shall lay o'er his head
Lies one who ne'er cared, and still cares not a pin,
What they say, or may say, of the mortal within,
But who, living and dying, serene, still and free,
Trusts in God that as well as he was he shall be."

It should be added that these lines appropriated by or for Mr. Wiseman were, as a matter of fact, written by the poet Pope for his own tombstone, but were not used.

Finally it may be said that of epitaphs to ironmongers and blacksmiths there are enough and to spare. One may be allowed to bring to a conclusion this already over-long paper with the following specimen. It is to be found in a certain London suburban churchyard :

"Here cool the ashes of MULCIBER GRIM,
Late of this Parish, *Blacksmith* ;
He was born in *Seacole Lane*, and bred at
Hammersmith.

From his youth upwards he was much
addicted

to *vices*, and was often guilty of *forgery*.

Having some talents for *irony*,
He therefore produced many *heats* in his
neighbourhood,

Which he usually increased by *blowing up*
the coals

This rendered him so unpopular that, that he
found

it necessary to adopt *cooling* measures,
His conduct was generally accompanied with
a *hiss*.

Though he sometimes proved a *warm* friend
yet, where

his interest was concerned, he made it a
constant

rule to strike *while the iron was hot*,
regardless of the injury he might do
thereby ;

And when he had
any matter of moment upon the *anvil*, he
seldom failed

to *turn it to his own advantage*.

Among the numberless instances that
might be given of the cruelty of his
disposition, it need only be mentioned
That he was the means of *hanging* many

of the innocent family of the *Bells*,
Under the idle pretence of keeping them
from *jangling* ;

And he put great numbers of the *hearts* of
steel into the *hottest flames*,
merely (as he declared) to *soften* the
obduracy of their *tempers*.

At length, after passing a long life in the
commission of these *black actions*,
his *fire* being exhausted,
and his *bellows* worn out,

He *filed* off to that place where only the
fervid ordeal of his own *forge* can be
exceeded :

Declaring with his last *puff*, that man is
born to trouble as the *sparks* fly upwards."

Anglo-Saxon Tradition makes Wren Churches Material and Spiritual Assets.

By Alfred C. Bossom.

There is hardly a great man or woman in London who has not played a part in the upbuilding of the commonwealth of Anglo-Saxon peoples—the British Empire, whose memory is not kept green by some permanent memorial. No matter whether in the East or West End, in conspicuous or inconspicuous places there are some memorials to those who have carried on and built up the tradition, which are the greatest birthright of the Anglo-Saxon. It is that which has enabled England to face trouble in the past and it is that same quality of respect for the things that have been, and that do still live, that will bring her through again.

All these make London, in fact they are London, the Heart of the Empire, the centre of love, the loadstone to which all our eyes look when we are far away. The Abbey, St. Paul's, London Bridge, St. James's Palace, the Wren Churches, the National Gallery—belong to us—they are our heritages, the intangible carriers of inspiration from one generation to the next.

Out in the Colonies, on the plains, in the oilfields, in the far away places of commerce, we whose lot has been so cast, think tenderly in our lonely moments of many of those things which are forever England—the mother country.

Those of you to whom a walk around St. Paul's Churchyard or along Cheapside is nothing more than the means of getting from one place to another, must never forget that you are the trustees for the remainder of your race. You are the guardians of those monuments and places without which London would be lost to the affection of those who are doing their bit out beyond—and it is up to you to see that these tendrils of love are nurtured and strengthened, as they form one of the strongest ties that hold the Empire together.

There are echoes around the world even now of the desire to pull down some of those churches that Sir Christopher Wren designed. Considering that these edifices were erected as long ago as when the Great Fire came to purge London of plague, such a proposal brings with it regret.

Would you kill a loved one of your youth, an inspiration that gave the same messages to your great-great-grandparents and will do the same for your great-great-grandchildren, if you be but true to your stewardship?

Those Wren churches are not yours—they are the jewels of the Empire.

If the land upon which they rear their English head is of great value, what contribution or inspiration in kind can you make that will be one half as productive of benefit as these piles of brick and stone? They are shrouded in a hallowed spirit that centuries of worthy, of honest English men and women alone can bring into being.

Growing as they did when the Empire's heart had actually just passed through the flames of purification, they stand to-day as silent sentinels of remembrance that God is still the hope of Englishmen.

Though they be empty of a Sunday congregation, they preach a louder sermon by their presence to those who pass them by on their way to trade and business.

What restored our markets when others had apparently taken them in the past? The sterling integrity of England won through—the respect for truth, for honour, the abhorrence of the thing that is to Englishmen that which "isn't done."

Adventure at the cross roads! The markets of England's prosperity are being fought for by others as never before by ways devious and different. If we are to win them back and hold them, it must be by adherence to the qualities which have been the pride of race of the Anglo-Saxon. It cannot be by tricks and sharp practices which even the truest may be tempted to follow in face of the present competitions. There is hardly an office window in the city from which one of these old pillars of strength do not loom as mute witnesses to our ideals.

With the feeling of reverent love of every Englishman who is away these silent sentinels call to the one way that has built up the Empire upon which the sun never sets. Can we substitute the gain of money for these permanent finger posts to the enduring greatness in this, the hour when England is fighting the greatest competitive commercial fight of her existence?

Inaugural Meeting of the R.I.B.A.

The Inaugural General Meeting of the R.I.B.A. of the session 1925-1926 was held on Monday, November 2nd, at 9 Conduit Street. Mr. E. Guy Dauber, the new President, delivered his Inaugural Address. Sir Frank Dicksee, President of the Royal Academy, moved and Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., seconded a vote of thanks to him. The portrait of Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, F.S.A., Past-President, painted by his brother, Mr. T. C. Gotch, was unveiled and presented to the R.I.B.A. The R.I.B.A. medal and diploma for the best London street frontage of 1924 was presented to Messrs. F. H. Greenaway and J. E. Newberry, F.F.R.I.B.A., for the new building of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Among those present were:—

Sir John W. Simpson, K.B.E., Past-President R.I.B.A.; Sir Banister Fletcher; Sir William Wells, Past-President of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute; Major Harry Barnes; Mr. Arthur Keen; Mr. John Keppie, President of the Incorporation of Architects in Scotland; Mr. H. T. Buckland; Professor S. D. Adshead; Mr. Walter Cave; Mr. W. Curtis Green, A.R.A.; Mr. G. C. Lawrence, President of the Wessex Society of Architects; Mr. E. B. Kirby, President of the Liverpool Architectural Society; Col. G. T. Reavell, President of the Northern Architectural Association; Mr. Inch Morrison, President of the Edinburgh Architectural Association; Mr. C. F. Ward, President of the South Wales Institute of Architects; Mr. Walter Tapper; Mr. H. M. Fletcher; Mr. Maurice Webb, Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education; Lieut.-Col. N. Waller, President of the Gloucestershire Architectural Association; Mr. C. G. Soutar, Past-President of the Dundee Institute of Architects; Mr. W. Reynolds-Stephens, President of the Royal Society of British Sculptors; Mr. D. S. MacColl; Mr. J. C. Squire, President of the Architecture Club; Professor Wagstaff; Mr. J. Hutton Freeman, Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters; Professor L. Wilkinson of Sydney, New South Wales; Mr. Egerton Swartwout of New York; Mr. C. F. A. Voysey; Mr. Rodney H. Alsop of Melbourne; Professor C. H. Reilly of Liverpool.

Competition Results.

The winners of the First Competition organised by the Marble Merchants' Association for the best designs for Marble Memorials are as follows:—2nd prize, value £3, Wm. H. Bennett, 19 Collins Place, Edinburgh; 3rd prize, value £1 10s., A. Stokely, 7 Tislington Street, Rotherhithe, London, S.E.16; 1st and 2nd prizes, value £5 and £3, H. J. Towndrow, 4 Wareham Street, New North Road, London, N.1; 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes, with a total value of £9 10s., to Alfred Borrowdale, Durham Road, Sunderland; 2nd prize, value £3, to Fergus J. Currie, Dryfe Road, Lockerbie; 2nd and 3rd prizes, valued together at £4 10s., to J. H. Rudd, 7 Corporation Street, Barnstaple.

Sixty designs were submitted, ranging from the simplest form of tablet to somewhat ambitious schemes suitable for large public memorials. The designs generally were of a high order and displayed a good standard of artistic merit.

R.I.B.A. (Archibald Dawnay) Scholarships.

The Board of Architectural Education have made the following awards: J. Breakwell, £75 Scholarship; W. R. Brinton, £50 Scholarship; R. P. Cummings, special additional £50 Scholarship (Architectural Association). G. A. Burnett, Grant of £10 (Leeds School of Art). A. C. Todd, Grant of £10 (University of Liverpool).

Dry Rot

Menace to New Houses

In these days when new buildings are rising rapidly everywhere in town and country the widespread danger of the dry rot fungus cannot be considered too seriously.

A writer in "The Times" recently called for more research into the ravages of this dread fungus—but research is unnecessary if every piece of wood is treated with Solignum—the scourge could be entirely stamped out in ten years—millions of pounds sterling saved at little cost.

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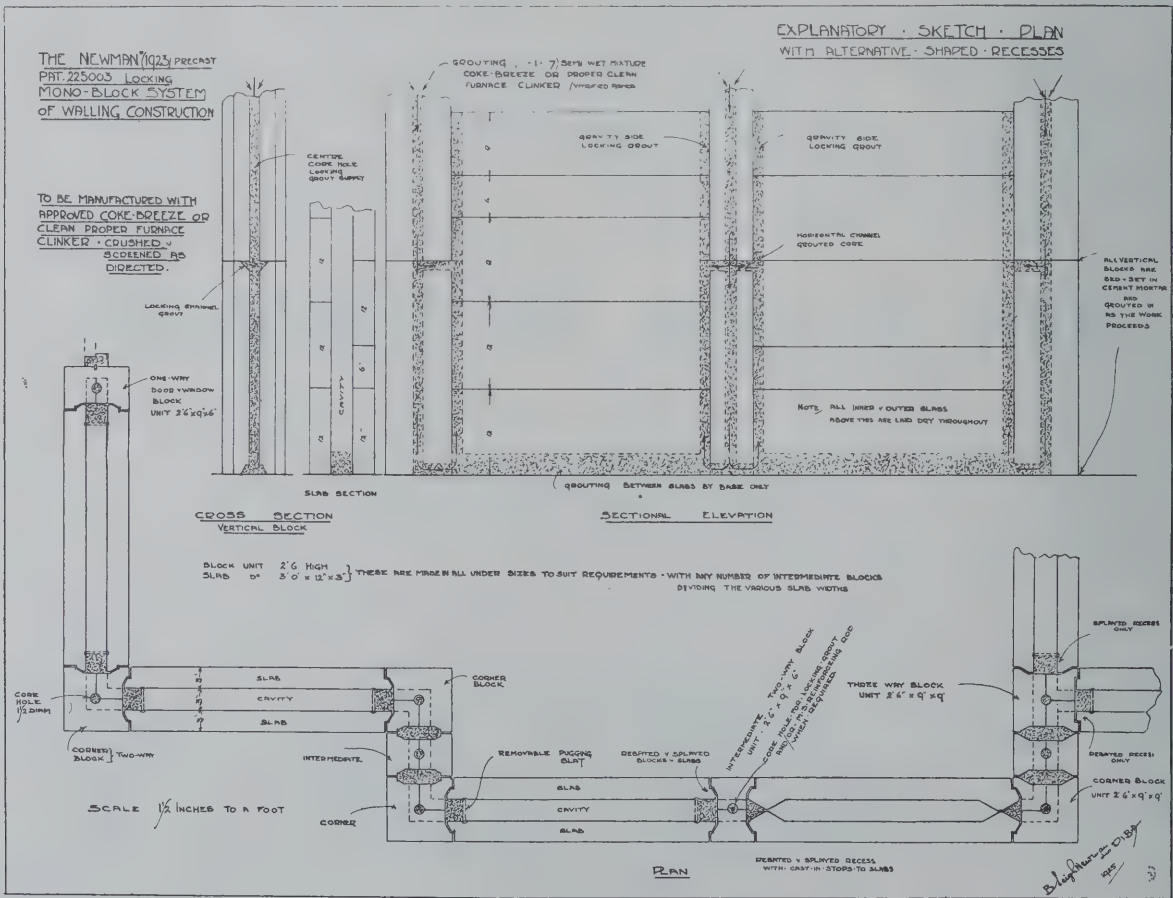
Amongst the various methods of house construction, which have recently appeared throughout the country, there is no doubt that the concrete house has proved itself to be the most successful and suitable.

Experience has shown that concrete houses constructed with suitable aggregates are comfortable, dry, healthy, warm in winter and cool in summer, and are permanent structures with many higher qualities than brickwork.

It is not the writer's purpose in this short article to deal with in-situ concrete, several well-known types of which

are in use, but of the precast systems at present on the market. The system illustrated appears to combine simplicity of method and design, rapidity of construction, and economy of labour. It is quickly erected by unskilled or semi-skilled labour, and the units can be easily handled.

It may be described as a pier and panel system, though its main feature is the locking vertical mono-blocks. These blocks are of three kinds—corner, party (or three-way), and intermediate, and are cast recessed to receive inner and outer fitting slabs. The blocks (2 feet 6 inches



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long) have a hollow cylindrical core running perpendicularly and an horizontal channel at their joints, enabling grouting to circulate and binding in one operation the blocks and slabs together.

This process is carried on as the work proceeds, and produces an intermittent cavity wall of exceptional simplicity and strength. The strength is ensured by the fact that the blocks and grouting form a monolithic stanchion from foundation to roof which occurs at intervals of a few feet.

The intervening spaces are filled in by inner and outer slabs laid dry, the ends of which engage with the vertical blocks before grouting is poured in, the exterior face being rendered in stucco, pebble dash, or roughcast, and the interior with ordinary plaster or cement washed.

Whilst primarily intended for housing schemes, the

system has been used in factory buildings, boundary wall and private houses, for which it readily adapts itself.

All the units can be cast on the building site, and it is preferable to do so, thus saving delays in transport freights, etc.

No timber shuttering, galvanised nails or wire ties are necessary, but the system can be reinforced if desired without any alteration in the design of the units.

Several hundred houses of the parlour and non-parlour types have been erected or are at present under construction in the Doncaster area.

The photograph illustrated gives a good idea of the type of house.

The whole system has been carefully worked out by Mr. B. Leigh Newman, L.R.I.B.A., architect, of Doncaster and is at present meeting with great success.

General News.

We regret to read the report of the bursting of the dam at Lake Eigiau in the Conway Valley and of the loss of life and property resulting from the mighty torrent of water that rushed down the mountain side.

ACCRINGTON.—The Corporation have approved the tender for 81 houses of the "A" type and 31 houses of the "B" type on the Dunnyshop Farm site. The plans have been prepared by Mr. F. J. Newton, F.R.I.B.A., Borough Surveyor, and the successful contractors are Messrs. J. & J. G. Bootham, of Brierfield, for £54,690.

BASINGSTOKE.—A site is being purchased by the Hampshire Education Committee for the erection of a new grammar school at Basingstoke.

BURNLEY.—The Corporation propose to erect new business premises on surplus land between Bethesda Street and Brown Street at an estimated cost of £20,000.

COULSDON.—Compulsory powers are to be sought by the Coulsdon and Purley U.D.C. for the purchase of a site in Brighton Road, Purley, for the erection of public offices and a fire station. Plans are to be prepared for a ferro-concrete bridge at Foxley Hill Road. A loan of £20,000 is to be sought for further housing subsidies. Plans passed: new road, Woodcote Grove estate, for Messrs. Morgan, Baines & Clark.

CROMPTON.—The Town Council have approved plans for a new cotton mill warehouse for Messrs. John Clegg, Ltd., of Sandylane Mills, Architect Mr. A. Fraser, of Shaw, and plans for an extension of the offices of the Dee Mill, Shaw. Plans by Messrs. Heywood & Ogden, Architects, of Oldham.

EAST HAM.—Plans passed: rebuilding 127 High Street, for Mr. W. A. Lewis, A.R.I.B.A.; extension of premises, 107 Barking Road, for Mr. T. F. Ingram, A.R.I.B.A.; extension of premises, 77-83 Whitta Road, for Messrs. Clemens Bros., Ltd.; 5 houses, Flanders Road, for Messrs. A. & H. Stokes; 18 houses, Little Ilford Lane, for Messrs. Herepath Bros.; 34 garages, High Street South, for Mr. F. W. Buen.

GOLBORNE.—The U.D.C. are inviting tenders for the erection of 20 houses to the plans of Mr. J. Ford, Architect, Council Offices.

HANWELL.—An elementary school for 400 children is to be erected by the Middlesex Education Committee in Boston Road, Hanwell.

ILFORD.—Plans passed: 252 houses in Wanstead Lane and other roads, for Mr. S. W. Robinson; 6 shops and dwellings, Green Lane, for Mr. J. Read; tennis pavilion, Forest House, New North Road, for Mr. W. Pullen; lodge at Barnardo's Homes, Cranbrook Road, for Messrs. Wratten & Godfrey; 5 houses, Beehive Lane, for Mr. A. P. Griggs; additions and alterations, Seven Kings Hotel, for Mr. S. A. S. Yeo; 85 houses, Staines Road, and Eton Road, for Mr. H. Higginbotham; 40 houses, Lonsdale Gardens and other roads, for Suburban Developments (London), Ltd.; 11 houses, Uphamm Avenue, for Mr. P. Triplete.

LANCASHIRE.—The County Highways Committee report in favour of the scheme to cost three millions for the construction of a road from Liverpool to East Lancashire, recommending a grant of £307,000.

MORECAMBE.—Messrs. J. Edmondson & Son are to erect 10 subsidy houses in the Croft Street district. Messrs. Hillman & Son have prepared plans for houses on a site at Torrisholme. The Holywell Medicinal Eater Co. have a proposal for the establishment of a Kursaal for the supply of medicinal water to be obtained from the foot of Hunphrey Head, six miles from the town. The Housing Committee are inquiring into a proposal for the demolition of large blocks of property and the erection

of improved dwellings on the cleared areas, the total cost being estimated at £294,500.

NORTHAMPTON.—The governors of the Northampton Town School have prepared a scheme for the erection of a block of buildings comprising junior science laboratory, manual instruction room and art room. Northants C.C. are considering the provision of another secondary school for boys.

OLDHAM.—Approval has been given to the new generating station scheme, to cost £207,000. The Borough Engineer has been asked to prepare plans for a motor bus garage in Henshaw Street. Plans passed: 32 houses, Lyndhurst Road, for Mr. F. Lord; 6 houses, Ripponden Road, for Mr. A. Gill; pavilion at Hollinwood, for Oldham and Werneth Lacrosse Club.

RUNCORN.—The local branch of the British Legion has obtained land in York Street for the erection of their new club premises, which will be started shortly. The plans have been prepared by Mr. J. Wilding, the District Surveyor.

STRETTFORD.—Lancashire Education Committee are seeking sanction to borrow £64,000 for the erection of a boys' secondary school at Stretford.

TORQUAY.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Barton Road, for Mr. W. H. Pethick; 36 houses at Barton, for Messrs. Ball & Wilkin; 69 houses at Barton, for Mr. G. E. Tozer; 17 houses, Petifor Road, for Mr. A. W. Page; 6 houses, Isaacs Hill, for Mr. J. H. Tucker; 6 houses, Sherwell Park Road, for Messrs. Riggs Waldron & Cole; 6 houses, Sherwell Park Road, for Chelston Building Co.; 18 houses, Newton Road, for Mr. S. Hawkins.

UXBRIDGE.—The surveyor is to prepare a lay-out plan for the development of Southfield. Plans passed: 7 bungalows, Walford Road, for Mr. L. H. Melhuish.

WILLESDEN.—Further details are to be obtained regarding a proposal to install filtration plant at the open-air baths. The L.M.S. propose to develop 35 acres adjoining the Actor branch line for factories. The Metropolitan Railway Co. are to erect 46 more houses at Neasden. The Housing Committee propose the erection of flats on a site in Stafford Road. The Housing Committee have inspected flats erected at Edinburgh by the Corolite Co. on a system of concrete construction and the engineer reports favourably on the method. The company have tendered for flats or maisonettes which are of the two-bedroomed type, with large living room and flat roof, at £450, and also for houses at £513 for A type; £494, A type, with south aspect £555, B type, north aspect; and £543 13s., B type, south aspect. Tenders have also been received from the Constructors' Union for brick houses at £509, A type; and £552, B type, north aspect; and £591, south aspect; two-bedroomed flats at £429 and three-bedroomed flats at £573. The Committee recommend a contract with the Constructors' Union for 200 houses and 40 flats on these prices on the Brentfield estate. Plan passed: 4 houses, Elm Way, Neasden, for Mr. F. Cattram; 5 shops and flats, Fortune Gate Road, Harlesden, for Mr. J. Rowden; 12 houses, Anson Road, Cricklewood, for Messrs. F. Walters, Ltd.; assembly hall, for Convent of Jesus and Mary Crownhall Road, Harlesden, for Mr. Wallace Gregory; additions to club, Crownhall Road, for Suburban Social Clubs, Ltd.

CHORLEY.—The Borough Engineer has been asked to prepare a scheme for 76 houses on a site near Brindle Street. The Education Committee suggest the provision of open-air classroom accommodation at the proposed Highfield Council School. A new post office is to be erected in High Street. Plans passed extensions, Weldbank Works, Moor Road, for Chorley Rubber Ltd.; lay out of land, Mayfield Road, for Fosterfield Mill Co. Ltd.

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Building Progress.

If the erection of artisan and middle-class houses continues at anything like the rate at present noticeable in various parts of the country, the cry for more and cheaper dwellings will soon be merely a remembrance, though for a time there is still a good deal of leeway to make up. We referred recently to the activity in the County Borough of Croydon, dealing with the Norbury, Thornton Heath and West Croydon districts in the main. Out towards Addiscombe similar activity is apparent, Messrs. Paish, Tyler & Crump being architects for the development of an estate in Addiscombe and Shirley Roads, the builders being the Addiscombe Garden Estate; H. Parker & Co. are supplying the w.w.p.'s; "Glow-worm" independent boilers are being used. E. Yewens and other builders are also busy in this district. In the centre of Croydon, in the high road, Messrs. Grant Bros., Ltd., are having their premises extended by G. H. Gibson, Ltd., with Thomas Potterton for the heating and hot water supply.

Messrs. Stagg & Mantle are extending their premises along Leicester Street, Leicester Square, the builders are Hall, Beddall & Co. London Brick Co. and Forders are supplying the "Phorpres" Flettons.

Messrs. Boehmer & Gibbs are the architects for a new block of shops and offices, to be known as "Castle House," in Wells Street, Oxford Street, being built by Davis & Co. The following are various of the firms supplying details:—Horace W. Cullum & Co., Ltd., for Cullum floors; Chas. H. Abrahams, demolition; London Brick Co. and Forders, for the "Phorpres" Fletton bricks; Nonporo Cement Co., Ltd., for Portland cement; tubular scaffolding is being used; E. J. & A. T. Bradford, sculptors; Hope's metal windows; and Air-Vent Heater Co., Ltd., for central heating.

Just opposite this block Messrs. Bourne & Hollingsworth are carrying out extensive reconstruction and modernisation to their well-known establishment, with F. J. Minter, Ltd., as general contractors; Dorman, Long & Co., for structural steel; Cement Marketing Co. for "Blue Circle" cement; and Haskins Brothers for shop fronts and equipment.

In our issue of July 31 last, we noticed the considerable alterations taking place in what used to be Messrs. Crosse & Blackwell's picturesque block in Charing Cross Road. We can supplement the information previously given by the following additional particulars:—Diespeker & Co., Ltd., for constructional floors; Medway's lifts; Pollard's, for metal windows; the Petroma Plaster Co., for plasters; and Franco Electric Sigh.

If, as we have remarked elsewhere, Croydon is doing her best to remedy the deficiency in housing, so, too, is Lewisham. Without attempting to mention all the work in progress in this metropolitan borough we may say that in the High Street at Rushey Green, Mr. J. Watt has designed and is erecting some half-dozen shops, with three storeys of flats over; Redpath, Brown & Co. have supplied the structural steelwork; and Courtney, Pope & Co. are carrying out the shop fronts, etc. Thirty-seven houses are being erected in Thornbeach and Penberth Roads, Catford, by Mr. T. A. Boughton, acting as his own architect, we understand, the ground storey facades are in red bricks from the firm of Eastwoods, Limited; George Walker, for Portland cement; L.C.C. soil pipes; the "Windermere" w.c. apparatus; the "Burlington" w.w.p.'s; the white walling tiles are made in Belgium to a large extent, some, however being the "Vulkan," the upper storey façades are finished in roughcast. Several houses also are in course of erection in Blythe Hill Lane, Catford, being designed and erected by L. Middleton. In Embleton Road, also, several two-storey houses are arising, in completion of the rows of terrace houses already existing. W. Ashby & Son for Portland cement; Davis Gas Stove Co., gas stoves; Parkinson Stove Co., Ltd., for their "Maughan" geysers; "Solvo" lavatory basins; "New Electra" w.c. apparatus; and "Original Burlington" w.w.p.'s.

We observe that Messrs. Chiesman are re-building their business premises in Lewisham High Street, Thos. H. Sawyer being the builders; Measures Bros., for structural steel; and Ragusa Asphalte Co., for asphalte.

Messrs. H. O. Ellis and Clarke, who are responsible for the new Carmelite House for the "Daily Mail," are also the architects for the new offices for the "Daily Mirror" in Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane. This will be a very important building, but it is at present in a rather elementary stage of development. Nelson Wise is carrying out the demolition and excavation; Killby and Gayford, Ltd., are the general contractors; and Moreland, Hayne & Co., Ltd., are executing the structural steelwork.

We referred en passant recently to the new Westminster Bank extension in Threadneedle Street, for which Messrs. Mewes & Davis are the architects. Holloway Brothers are the general contractors; B. Goodman, Ltd., are carrying out the demolition and excavation; and Powers and Deane & Ransome are executing the structural steelwork.

Books.

Messrs. B. T. Batsford's list of autumn announcements includes:—

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND, by Dorothy Hartley and Margaret M. Elliot, with 150 pictures from contemporary sources; the first two of the series, dealing with the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries respectively.

THE ROMAN ALPHABET AND ITS DERIVATIVES, by A. W. Seaby of the Reading University; containing large-sized reproductions of the lettering of the Trajan Column.

THE SMALLER ENGLISH HOUSE FROM THE RESTORATION TO THE VICTORIAN ERA, 1660-1840, by Professor Richardson and H. Donaldson Eberlein; a review of its design, plan, etc.

THE ENGLISH INN: PAST AND PRESENT, by the same authors; illustrated by about 280 reproductions from photographs, old drawings, sketches, engravings, etc.

SKETCHING IN LEAD PENCIL, for architects and others, by Jasper Salwey, A.R.I.B.A., illustrated by the author and a number of well-known artists and draughtsmen.

A SHORT HISTORY OF ART, from prehistoric times to the nineteenth century, translated from the French of Dr. André Blum, and edited by R. R. Tatlock, editor of the "Burlington Magazine."

HISTORIC COSTUME, a chronicle of fashion, 1490-1790, by F. M. Kelly; with 80 illustrations in colour and from photographs, and 200 sketches by Randolph Schwabe.

LIVING SCULPTURE, a series of photographic figure studies by Bertram Park, with a historical introduction by G. Montague Ellwood, editor of "Drawing and Design."

A HISTORY OF WALLPAPER DESIGN IN ENGLAND, from the earliest times to 1914, by J. L. Edmondson and A. V. Sugden; with 70 plates in colour and about 90 in monochrome.

They are also publishing new editions of the following:—

THE CHILD IN ART AND NATURE, by Adolphe Armand Braun, author of "The Hieroglyphic or Greek Method of Life Drawing"; with over 300 illustrations of children of all ages.

HANDCRAFT IN WOOD AND METAL, a Handbook of Training in their Practical Working, by John Hooper, M.B.E., and Alfred J. Shirley; with over 300 illustrations.

MODERN PRACTICAL JOINERY, by George Ellis; a Twentieth Century Treatise on the Practice, containing over 1,400 illustrations, with 41 photographic and 20 double-page plates.

ELEMENTARY AND ADVANCED BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, two text books on the Principles and Details of Modern Building Construction, by Charles F. Mitchell and George A. Mitchell.

THE ART OF DRAWING IN LEAD PENCIL, a Practical Manual dealing with Materials, Technique, etc., by Jasper Salwey, A.R.I.B.A.; with 135 finely reproduced illustrations.

In addition to English editions of:—

A MONOGRAPH ON THE WORK OF McKIM, MEAD AND WHITE; THE WORK OF CHARLES A. PLATT, and MODERN DESIGNS FOR WALL AND CEILING DECORATIONS (Moderne Wand' u. Decken' Dekoration).

Electric Clocks.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE HOUSE ELECTRIC CLOCK SYSTEM.

The clock in the Tower is the largest electric clock in the City and occupies probably the most prominent position.

The two dials, one facing west and one south, are each 7 ft. 8 in. in diameter, of cast iron specially treated to withstand all weather and glazed with opal.

Heavy copper hands mounted on roller bearings to take the weight and reduce friction and wear indicate the time, and are driven by a powerful impulse motor, controlled by the Standard pendulum in the London and Lancashire Insurance Company's building adjoining.

This impulse motor is the subject of a patent by the Standard Time Co., Ltd., and is constructed by them specially to drive heavy exposed hands from electric power either direct from the mains or from suitable accumulators, kept charged from the mains.

Every part of this large clock was made in London.

All the clocks in the building are controlled by one "Standard" pendulum, which is synchronised by hourly Greenwich signal transmitted by the same company.

BLACKPOOL.—The Corporation have decided to retain the services of Mr. E. D. Dennis, Architect, of Clifton Street, in connection with the scheme for the erection of Corporation houses on land at Hoo Hill.—Messrs. Whittaker & Gardner, Architects, of Birley Street, are preparing plans for houses on the Stoneyhill estate for Mr. Beaucock.

CONTENTS.

A History of Brickwork	PAGE 344	Exhibitions and Art Galleries	PAGE 355
The Peter Post Memorial Hall	348	Correspondence	356
Competition News	351	General News	358
From Menhir to Calvary	352	The Lighting of Liverpool Cathedral	360

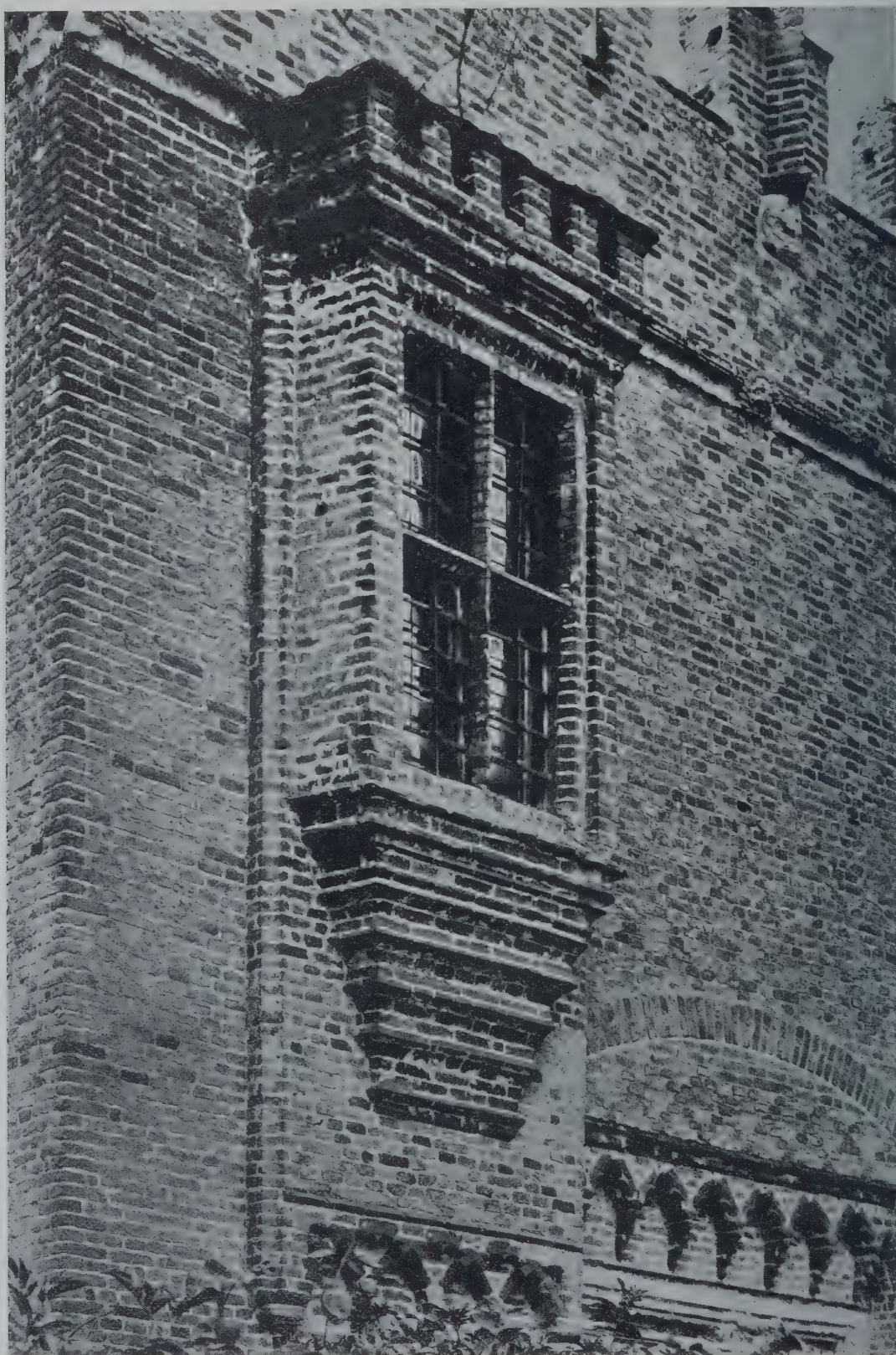


UNITARIAN CHAPEL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

A History of English Brickwork.

Mr. Nathaniel Lloyd has compiled a notable and very valuable work on the subject of English Brickwork which will be regarded in time to come as the standard work on the subject. From the list of subscribers given it is evident that English and foreign brickmakers regard the book as one likely to be of great value to them. The letterpress covers the History of English Brickwork, Brick Sizes, Prices, Wages and Output, Brickmaking, Terra Cotta,

Statutes and Orders, the Characteristics of Brick, its Forms, Texture and Colour, its Association with other materials, the Manipulation of Brick, Bonds, Joints, Diapers, Inlay, Tracery and Strapwork, Moulding, Gauged and Carved Brick, Corbelling and Chimneys, Gate and Garden Work, Porches, Doorways and Windows, Stairs, Vaulting and other details, and a Table of Brick Measurements is given arranged both in thickness and chronological order.



RYE HOUSE, HODDESDON, HERTS, ORIEL WINDOW.

But perhaps the most important of its contents are a series of nearly 300 plates, mostly photographic, which practically include examples of every date and type of work in which brick forms the exclusive or dominating material.

The greatest care has been taken by the author to ensure accuracy, and the statements made are evidently entirely reliable, the book being the outcome of a very great amount of careful investigation and study. It should lead those who have used brick—chiefly where no more expensive material was financially within reach—to realise that brickwork well used and chosen is as good a vehicle for architectural expression as any material. It may be described as the “local stone” of Eastern and South Eastern England, and it is in these districts that it is usually employed with most success.

We learn that English brickwork was employed as far back as the thirteenth century, and that its extended use was in the past due to our commercial intercourse with the Hanse towns in later centuries, while some authorities consider that a great impetus was given by the knights and peers who had been with the forces which occupied France during the wars of the fifteenth century with that country. What we call English bond was in use in France at that time, and from then onward it became the prevalent bond here until the introduction of Flemish bond in the second quarter of the seventeenth century. An interesting table is given of the bricklayers' wages from the fourteenth century onward, these daily wages varying from 3d. a day paid at Oxford in 1317, to 13s., the Trade Union rates in London in 1923.

From the examples quoted, wages varied from 3d. to 6d. between 1309 and 1503, but as much as 10d. was paid at Greenwich in 1545, and between 1575 and 1626 the average quoted is 1s. In London in 1667 3s. was paid with 2s. for the bricklayer's labourer, and in 1749 the same rates were paid in London.

The rate demanded by many bricklayers after the Fire of London was £7 a rod if the bricklayers found material and £2 a rod if it were supplied to them. The author analyses this latter figure as £4 12s. for bricks, sand and lime, £1 1s. for labour and 7s. for scaffolding and supervision. In 1703 in the “City and County Purchaser” it was stated that a bricklayer with a diligent labourer engaged on new and sound work, all materials being ready, would lay 1,000 bricks in whole work on a solid plane, and some very “expeditious fellows” will lay 1,200 to 1,500. Laybourn, writing in 1700, quotes similar figures: Baldy Langley 1,500 bricks in rough work and 1,000 bricks a day in better work as being reasonable figures. The hours were from six in the morning to six in the evening, including the usual time for breakfast, dinner and refreshment, which corresponds to a working day of 10 hours with payment at 3½d. an hour.

The author says that 1,000 bricks a day was clearly the number which it was considered a bricklayer with a labourer should lay in ordinary work from 1667 onwards, this allowing for their erecting their own scaffolding; 900 bricks in an eight-hours' day would be the modern equivalent to these figures, an equivalent which has not been maintained.

Another interesting table is that which gives the number of days worked to buy a quarter of corn, which we give.

“A History of English Brickwork,” by Nathaniel Lloyd, O.B.E. H. Greville Montgomery, 43 Essex Street, W.C.2, and William Heltum, Inc., 418 Madison Avenue, New York. £2 5s. net.

	Wheat per quarter.	Bricklayer per diem.	Artisan per diem.	Days worked to buy a quarter of corn.
1409-10	4/6	4d. in Dec. 6d. in July	—	13½
1495	4/0¾	—	8d.	9
1533	7/8	—	8d.	11½
1593	18/4½	—	7d.-8d.	27½
1684	42/0½	—	1/-	42
1749	29/-	2/- in country 3/- in London	—	14½
1923	49/6	10/- in Sussex 13/- in London	—	9¾ 4¾ 3½

It would seem from these figures that in the past the theory of the relation of wages to the cost of living was not borne in mind, but reliable data on the subject is difficult to obtain.

In the chapter on chimneys a curious and somewhat gruesome incident is given. When Plaish Hall was being built for Judge William Leighton, he asked the Sheriff at Shrewsbury whether there was in the neighbourhood a workman skilled in building brick chimneys. The sheriff reported that the judge had sentenced such a man for sheep stealing. On hearing this the judge had him brought to Plaish, and when the chimneys were built returned to the place of execution, where “the judge made his neck to crack.”

The sizes of bricks at different dates is very fully dealt with and tabulated, as well as every method of their manufacture and use in building, but probably even more can be gathered from the very fine set of photographic views and scale drawings of brick detail than from the letterpress. These illustrations prove that there is not a feature in building which is not capable of being carried out well on brickwork if intelligently employed. The durability of good brickwork, its colour and its changes under action of weather as well as its capacity for withstanding the action of weather and time, make it an ideal material for every purpose and justifying its universal reputation as a good building material.

We have found it difficult to more than briefly refer to a few outstanding features among many given.

Every section of the book would give material for an independent review, and, though it is big, there is no “padding” in it. It must have been the outcome of the collection and analysis of an immense mass of material gathered together in the course of many years, and the results have been collected, analysed and checked, so that the book gives what is in reality a condensed summary of a very large amount of material. Brick is rapidly invading what used to be exclusively stone areas in the past, but the use of brick in such localities seldom shows an appreciation of the possibilities open. This has to be the outcome of education, not only of the bricklayer but the architect employed, an education which will be materially helped by a close and careful study of the book before us.

The author has taken much trouble in the selection of his illustrations, many of which show most interesting detail to a large and explanatory scale. A study of brickwork as used in the past will show us that design in brick must not be a translation of some design in another material, but involves a simpler use of forms, the effect of which will not be disturbed by the joints and strong colour of the walling. A failure to recognise this leads to fussiness with which the effect of the quality of the material is lost.

Our Illustrations.

BLOCK OF SHOPS AND FLATS IN HARROW ROAD. W. SYDIE DAKERS, Architect.



DETAIL OF BLOCK OF SHOPS AND FLATS IN HARROW ROAD. W. SYDIE DAKERS, Architect.

Block of Shops and Flats in Harrow Road.

W. SYDIE DAKERS, Architect.

This block of property, now nearing completion, is situated on the Harrow Road, and is set back to the line of the future widened road.

The elevations are in Great Missenden multi-coloured hand-made bricks, the cornices, eaves, soffits, etc., being in

1 inch and 2 inch bricks. The roofs are covered with Bridgwater tiles.

External staircases at each end of the block lead to a balcony, from which the flats are approached.

The general contractors are Messrs. Callow & Wright, Ltd., of Willesden Green, and the carving was executed by Mr. James Walker, of Oxford Street, W.

Notes and Comments.

Waterloo Bridge.

From the accounts published, Sir Edwin Lutyens's report on Waterloo Bridge is a disappointing document which is unlikely to carry conviction in any quarter. Its weakest point is the statement that Sir Edwin is convinced that the present bridge must be rebuilt. This, to our mind, would cut away all reasons for carrying out any of the various proposals which are enumerated. Who would propose to mend or alter a garment if the original material retained was admittedly not of a durable nature?

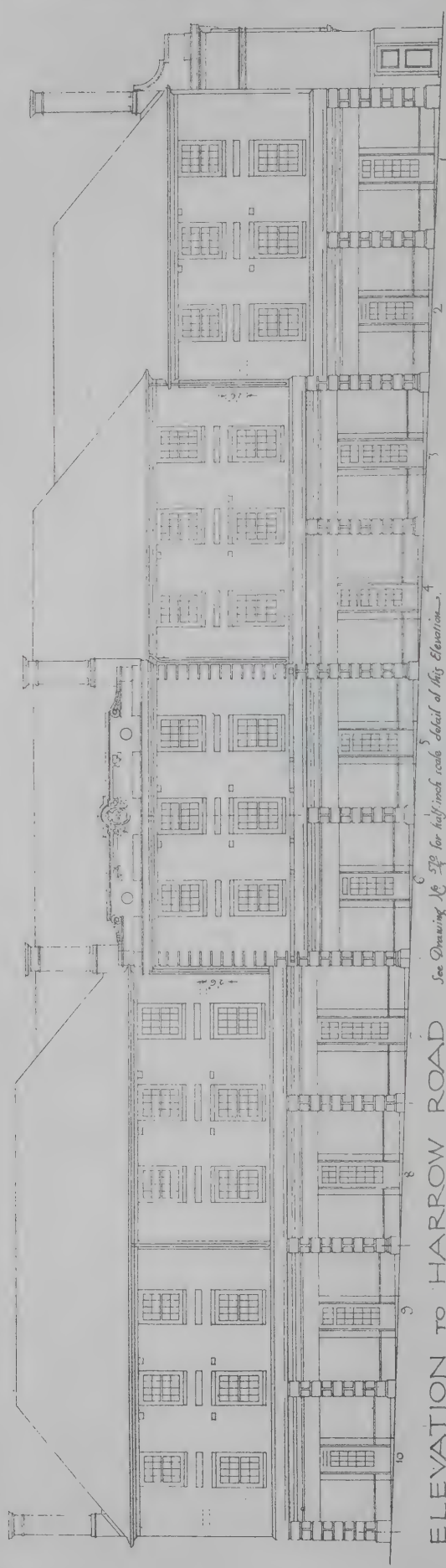
When we consider the nature of the various expedients considered we are still more amazed.

(1) Widening by corbelling out would altogether destroy the effect of the existing design; (2) footways tunnelled under the roadway would involve very radical reconstruction; (3) footways alongside the bridge built as independent structures would in effect be horrible.

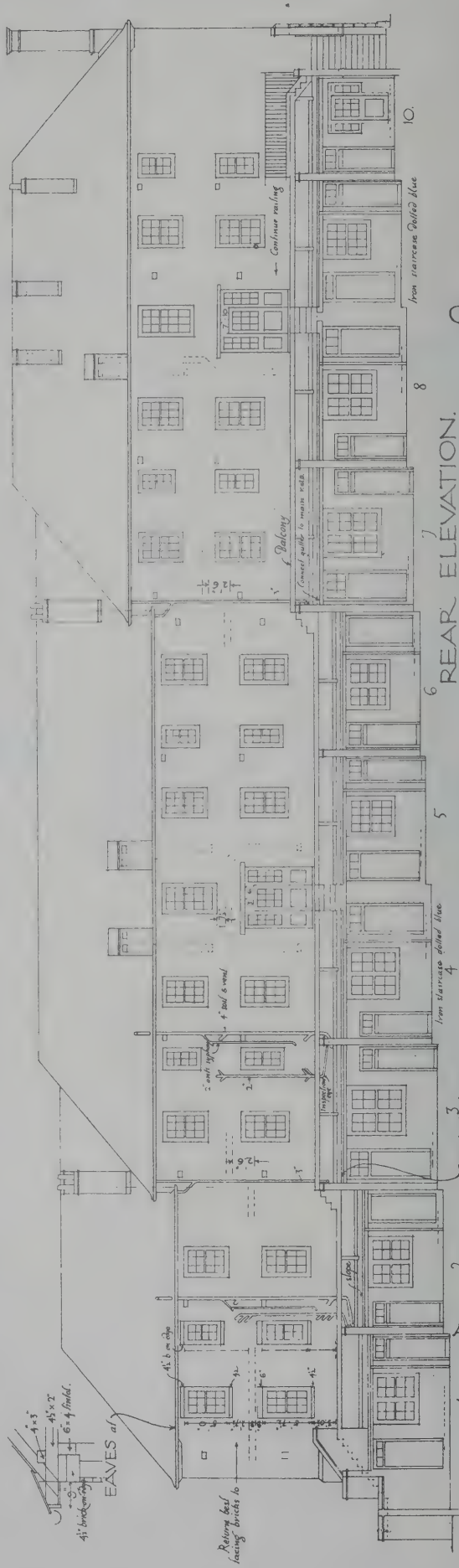
All these expedients Sir Edwin himself dismisses as objectionable, but the fourth suggestion, the building of an entirely new bridge in a single span either for foot passengers alone, which would involve 35 steps up at either end, or a vehicular overhead bridge, starting from York Road and Stamford Street. We can imagine nothing more calculated to reduce Waterloo Bridge to the appearance of a toy which had been left by mistake below its mighty neighbour. Again, Sir Edwin considers that the bridge would be improved by heightening it in order to provide for wider sideways, an opinion that most of us would dismiss as obviously wrong.

Sir Reginald Blomfield has written an extremely able and forcible letter to "The Times," in which he very caustically reflects on the suggestions made in the Report. He says that Sir Edwin Lutyens, "in defiance or ignorance of the views of his colleagues, gives it as his

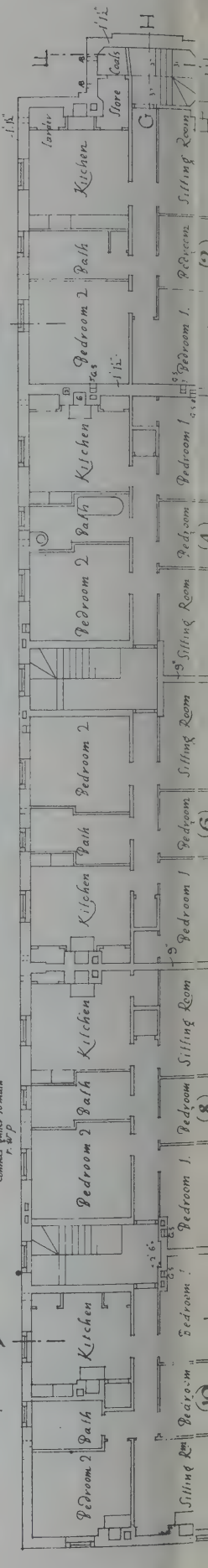
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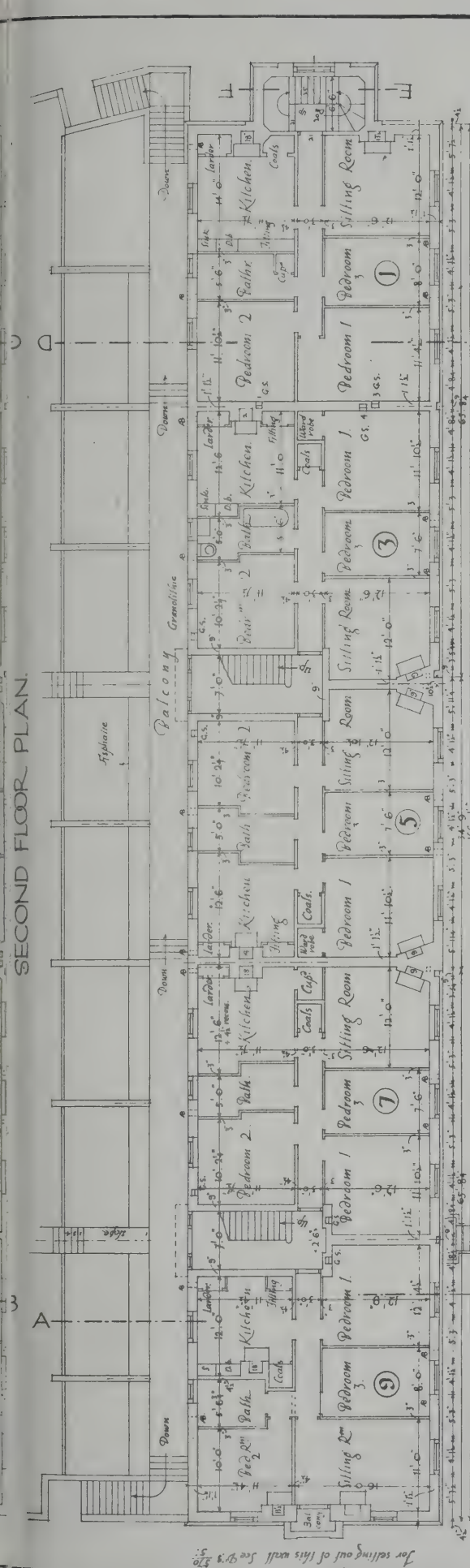
ELEVATION TO HARROW ROAD



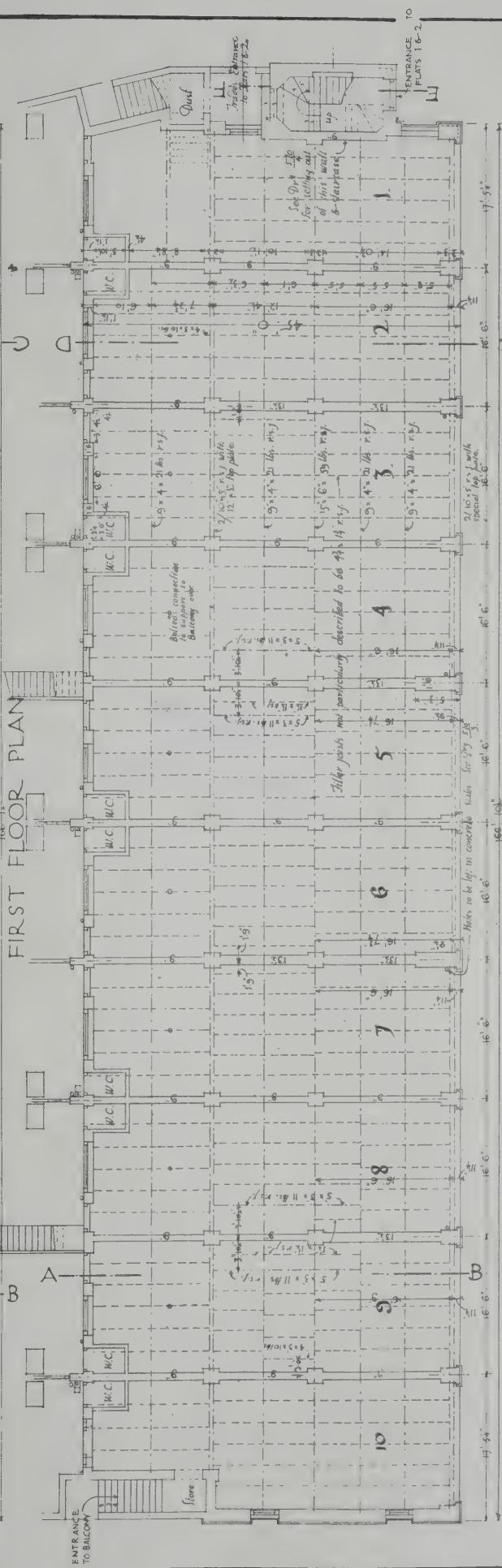
REAR ELEVATION.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN:

'PHOTO-LITHO': WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E C 3

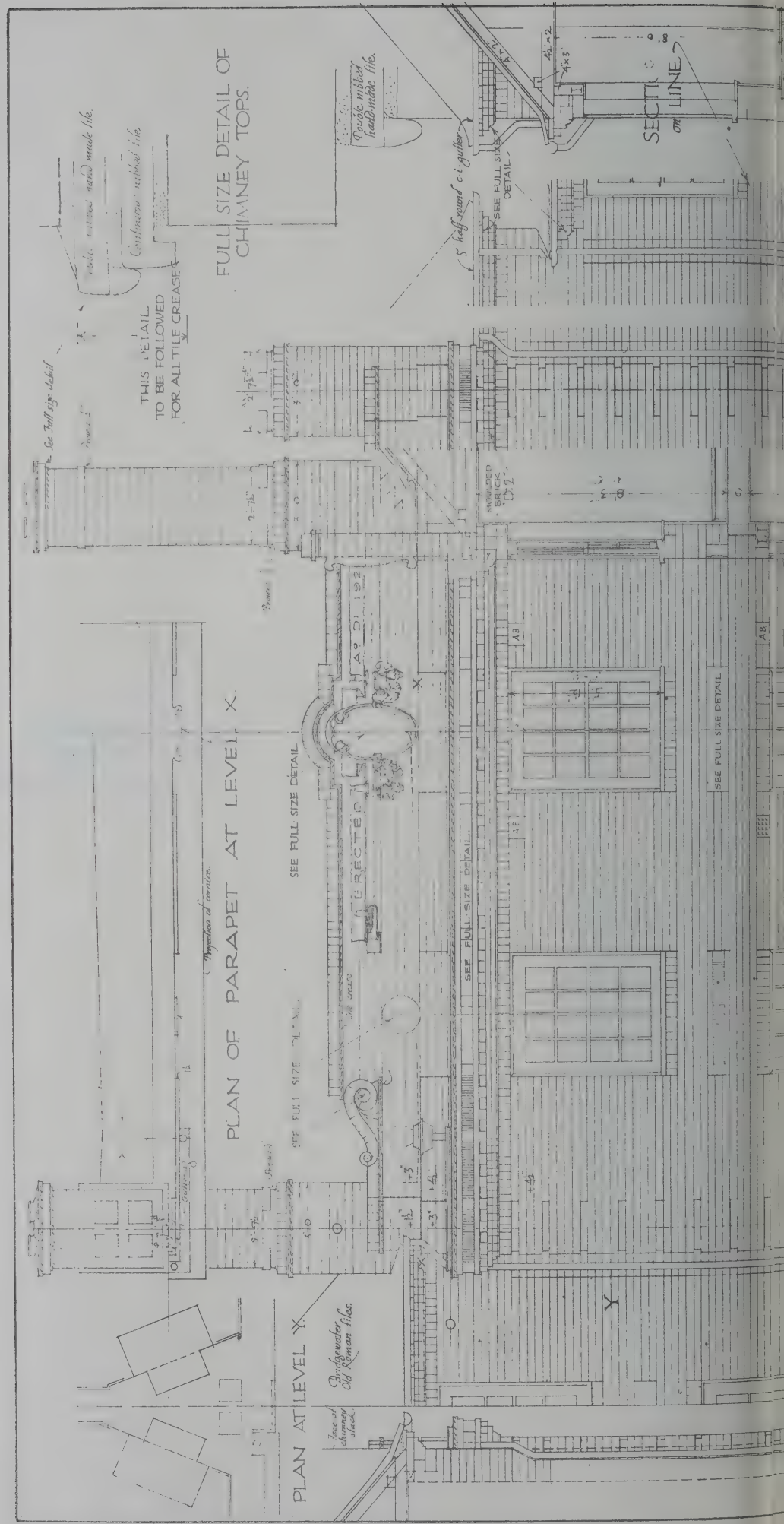
FRONT AND BACK ELEVATIONS, WITH GROUND AND FIRST-FLOOR PLANS OF

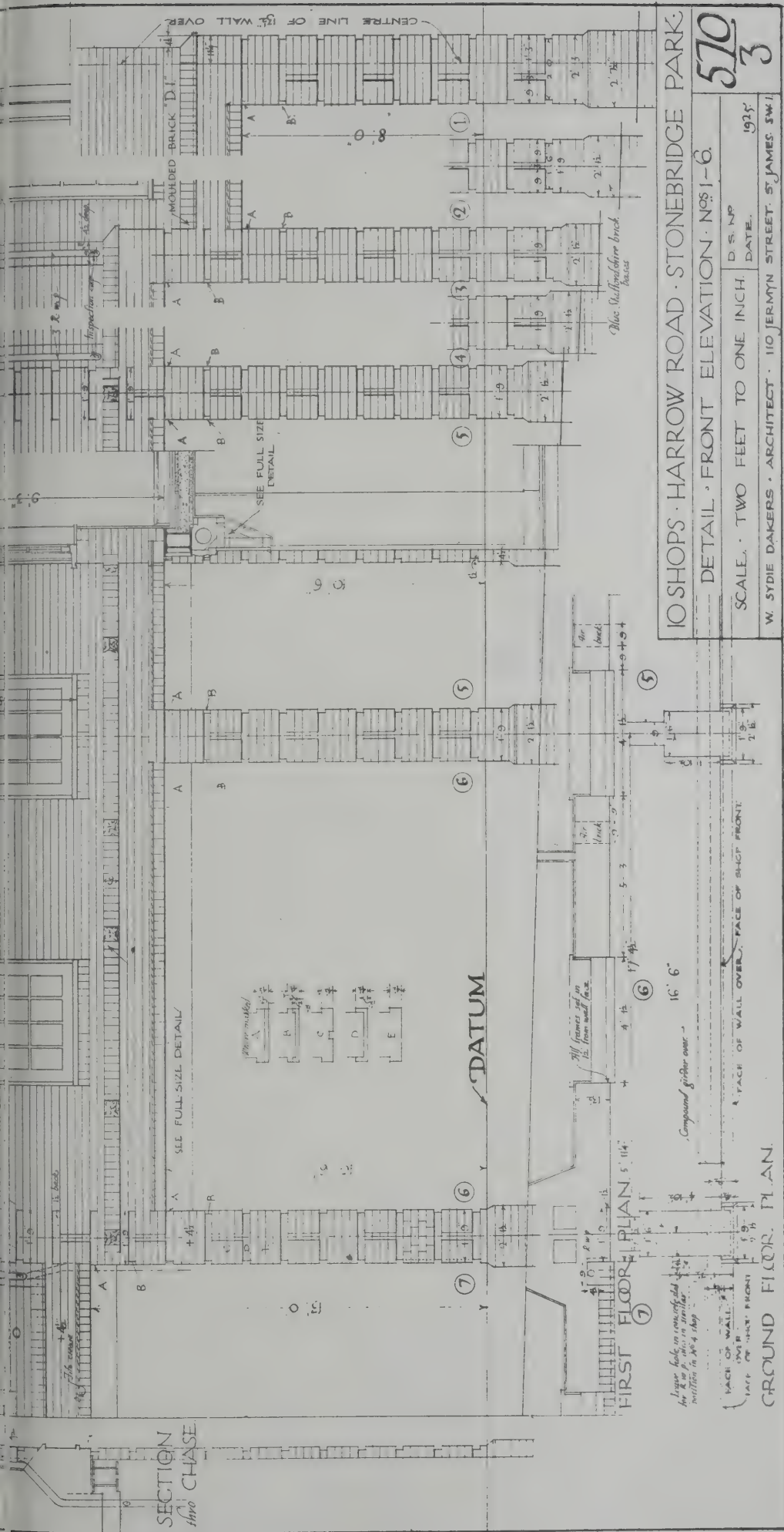
10 SHOPS. HARROW ROAD, STONEBRIDGE PARK.

W. SYDIE DAKERS, ARCHITECT.

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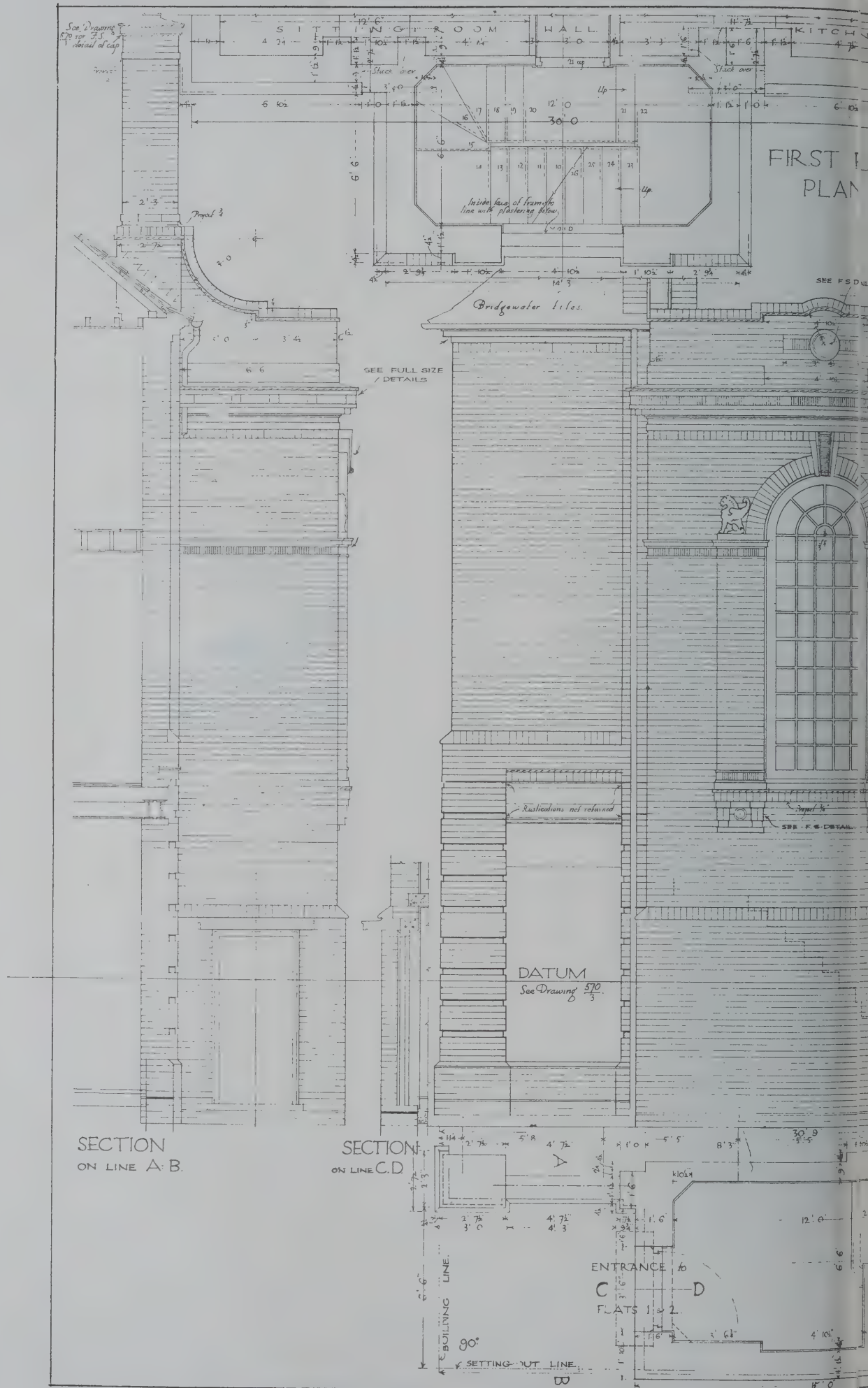


DETAIL FRONT ELEVATIONS OF 10 SHOPS, HARROW ROAD, STONEBRIDGE PARK.

W. SYDIE DAKERS, ARCHITECT.

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DETAIL AND FLANK ELEVATION OF 71

Architectural drawing of 10 Shops Harrow Road, Stonebridge Park. The drawing includes a roof plan at the top, a detail of a flank elevation on the left, and two sections (on the centre line and on line E.F.) on the right. The drawing is signed 'W. SYDIE DAKERS' and dated '1925'. A table at the bottom right contains the project name, detail description, scale, date, and architect information.

10 SHOPS HARROW ROAD, STONEBRIDGE PARK.	
DETAIL ~ FLANK ELEVATION ~ NO 1.	
SCALE. TWO FEET TO ONE INCH	D.S. NO. DATE. 1925
W. SYDIE DAKERS. ARCHITECT. 110 JERMYN STREET. ST JAMES SW.1.	

570
4.

ARCHITECT.

"PHOTO-LITHO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C.2

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opinion that no matter what the Council's decision is the bridge, to be maintained, must ultimately be rebuilt." As Sir Reginald points out, "the question of rebuilding *versus* underpinning is one for engineers and not architects. But it is well known that the almost unanimous view of architects, supported by very eminent engineers, is that the bridge can be underpinned, that repair and not reconstruction is all that is necessary, and that on no account should the design of the bridge be altered in any way."

We should be inclined, in a matter of this magnitude and difficulty, to discount any opinion of architects with regard to the feasibility of underpinning, which seems to us to be a special engineering question alone.

The question of Waterloo Bridge may be divided into sections, on each one of which authoritative opinion is needed independently.



DOOR IN APPENZELL, SWITZERLAND.
Photo by ERIC STEIGER, Architect.

The first of these is whether the bridge can be underpinned so as to give it a long span of life. Engineers are the men to decide this, and if, as has been shown, their opinions differ, it should be a case of calling in more evidence and deciding on that evidence alone.

(2) If the bridge cannot be underpinned all arguments in its favour are futile. If it can be underpinned there remains

(3) The further question whether there is necessity to replace or alter it for traffic considerations. Here again is a question to refer to those able to speak with absolute independent authority on such points and to no other.

We may obtain such overwhelming opinion on either of the above points as to render it unnecessary to go into any other, but if we do not it is time to consider what we may call the æsthetic side of the question.

Here the expressed opinion is unanimous to the effect that the bridge is a masterpiece and is so recognised throughout the civilised world, and if it can be retained, in spite of engineering difficulties and traffic considerations, this last opinion should unquestionably be "final and binding" on all.

If, on the other hand, it cannot be retained because of

engineering or traffic difficulties, the board is clear, and the only course remaining is to replace it by the best and finest bridge that can be designed to-day.

The Replanning of London.

Comprehensive proposals for the replanning of London are stated to be under consideration by the London County Council. Mr. Topham Forrest, the Council's architect, considers such a plan will enable improved conditions to be realised at a minimum cost, in which opinion he is entirely right.

Developments of this nature are taking place in Chelsea, where the Sloane Shand Estate is being remodelled, and more direct and wider roads made. Fulham Road, Kings Road, Chelsea Embankment and smaller streets like Sydney Street and Oakley Street are to be widened to 70 feet, and the approaches to the Albert and Battersea Bridges will materially affect cross-river communications.

Certain areas are also to be retained as open spaces, including sites to the east of Blenheim Street, south of Christ Church, west of Manor Street, along Danvers Street and others. This promises to be a very useful and practical scheme, for the initiation of which Mr. Forrest is to be congratulated.

An Absurd Proposal.

We were during the progress of the War frequently surprised at the leniency shown to the "conscientious objector," but a contemporary in Birmingham relates that Mrs. W. A. Albright wishes to present a statuette to Birmingham in memory of conscientious objectors who refused to fight under conscription, this memorial to be placed in the Colonnade, adjacent to the Hall of Memory, in Birmingham. The Common Council of that city have very naturally refused the gift, which could only be regarded as an insult to those to whom the Hall is dedicated. Such an offer is evidence of the continued vitality of the cranks in our midst, cranks who receive kindly treatment here which they would get in no other country in the world and treatment which it might be in the interests of all that they should not be able to obtain here.

Wet Time.

It is stated that considerable progress has been made in arriving at a practicable "wet-time" scheme for the building trade, and that a sub-committee of the Masters' and Operatives' Federations are going to recommend a scheme whereby a total contribution of 6d. a week will be made by masters and operatives, 4d. a week being paid by the masters and 2d. a week by the operatives. It is estimated that this contribution will provide a fund of £350,000 a year and that this sum would be more than sufficient to guarantee 50 per cent. payment for time lost through wet or inclement weather, over which the workers have no control. We are pleased to learn that the Bricklayers' and Plasterers' Unions are taking part in the negotiations, in spite of the fact that they have withdrawn from the Operatives' Association.

We hope this burning question is on the eve of settlement, as it will tend to remove a cause of friction. We may add that we think it wise that the fund should cover a part and not the whole of the time lost, otherwise there would be no inducement to work in weather which, though broken, was not absolutely "wet."

The greatest of all difficulties in this matter is clearly that of deciding when weather is "wet," a difficulty which would not occur when men were working for themselves, but the provision of a part time compensation instead of a full time one is clearly the best safeguard that can be introduced.

Mr. R. W. Knightley Goddard, architect and surveyor, announces that his address is now 12 Great Queen Street, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, instead of Buckingham Street, Strand; his telephone number is Holborn 1345.

The Peter Post Memorial Hall.

By J. E. Reid.

The demise of Mr. Peter Post once again suggested confidence in that consistent maxim "that we must all die," and as it is the special prerogative of all men who have been relieved of this mortal coil to be imperturbed by what is said about them, so Mr. Post was in the happy position of being deaf to the criticisms that were generously showered upon his memory after he had gone.

It happened in this wise. Mr. Post was a sincere worshipper in the local church, but owing to being eccentric in his habits, quiet and surly, and a repairer of soles, and the owner of habiliments that had proved friends of long standing, his acquaintance was not cultivated. As his shoulders became laden with years and his beard frosted with age he was left severely alone up to the time of his death.

It was afterwards that people realised the error of not having extended more brotherly affection in the place of chilly indifference, for when his will was read it was found that he had made the church a residuary legatee, the money to be utilised for building a hall on the site adjoining the church, of sufficient capacity and shape, that would harbour and further the several activities that were pursued by the different societies in the parish for the uplifting of men and women.

This was an act so noble, so thoughtful, a turning of the right cheek after the left had been struck, a returning of good for evil, that it immediately placed the testator in an imaginary niche in one of those celestial temples where all good and deserving people finally terminate their life's course. His virtues and graces were freely discussed and amplified, his idiosyncrasies and general discrepancies overlooked, and everyone arrived by common consent at the same conclusion, that it was but one more example of the humble and obscure, the snubbed and cold-shouldered, being really rich, great, glorious and munificent.

It hardly seemed decent at this stage to question the amount of money that would accrue from this episode, but people will talk, and as it was known that Mr. Post had a finger in many pies the legacy would be no inconsiderable one. But all agreed that the Peter Post Memorial Hall would express the sublimest feelings of the parish for ever and ever as nothing else could and be a salutary lesson to all men who were about to die to remember the church.

Of course a large scheme of this kind naturally formed a nucleus around which opinions gathered, and a committee of ladies and gentlemen, consisting of the most sincere and devoted workers of the church who had done their utmost to make the testator uncomfortable when he was alive was formed to carry out his wishes after he was dead. So they sat around the parochial teapot and discussed matters with the Rev. Kneb as umpire, and they came to the conclusion that a hall capable of holding 500 people, having an ante-room which could be used as "cloak, kitchen, tea-making and buttering-of-bread room, with sink for washing up," would be ample.

But what about the activities of the parish, the small societies that were associated with the church? They ought to be consulted, said the minister. And what about an architect? That was important, too. They favoured an architect who would look for no remuneration. But why have an architect when there was a builder in the parish who could do the needful necessary and was one of "us"? Why indeed! So Mr. Doughty Sherl was accordingly written to, and he replied just as the committee expected him to, that he would do the work out of pure love.

"That is brotherly and unselfish!" exclaimed the minister.

"Most satisfactory!" echoed the committee.

"Doubly Christian!" murmured a member.

When the architect attended the next meeting armed with a sheaf of plans, drawn up from suggestions furnished by the committee, the excitement was intense. The elevation was much admired. It had a dash of Gothic and

an atmosphere of neo-Greek. Abundance of steps led to a very large and imposing main door over which a fantastic hood, in the shape of a scollop shell, cast a sombre shadow. This was supported by a couple of corpulent pilasters having square box bases. Any one conversant with the language of architecture would know at once that this was an utterly uncommon and honest feature, in which no sophistry whatever could possibly survive.

As it had been decided to call in for consultation representatives of all the social activities that flourished in the parish this was done. They were five in number, and consisted of the following:—

The Orchestral Society.

The Boy Scouts.

The Amateur Dramatic Society.

The Debating Society.

The Minister's Activities.

The secretary of the Orchestral Society was asked to give his views, so that the architect could design for musical tone, and produce a building that would suit any human voice as well as the bass trombone. He was asked to allow a minimum vibration of two seconds. As the secretary of the Orchestral Society played most wind instruments and also used his vocal organs with great effect he naturally supplied atmosphere to the meeting. He candidly admitted that he did not understand plans, but was more concerned with the platform accommodation, and informed the committee that the fiddlers ought to have abundance of bow room and the trombone player ample space for fear he should smite some of the other players on the head when drawing out his instrument to its fullest extent. Acting upon this suggestion, the platform was extended three feet.

The leader of the Boy Scouts was called upon to give his views. He advocated a good solid floor, oak skirting, cast-iron protection plates at all the important corners and on the door jambs, and ample room for athletic exercise and any amount of cupboard accommodation fitted with brass lever locks. These remarks were accordingly noted.

The secretary of the Amateur Dramatic Society, who had often inflicted cooked Shakespeare and pickled Shaw upon a patient audience, gave his views in an impressive manner. At his suggestion the hall was made much bigger and several dressing-rooms were added, with a back exit (a most desirable thing sometimes). He also suggested a proper proscenium, foot and high lights, wings and a trapdoor for the Grave scene in "Hamlet."

The Debating Society had more women than men amid their members, and it did not appear quite clear who was the real representative of the Society, because the many ladies present all tried to speak at once. But as the minister explained that if you pressed down all the keys of a piano at the same time, you would only get noise and not music, so he advised the ladies to speak one by one and in rotation. The only speaker who had any breath left was a thin looking maid, and she said if there were going to be any steps from the platform into the hall, they ought not to be placed in a kind of dock, as many were, because when you were descending from the platform into the hall, your dress invariably caught in the sides of the dock and your ankles became exposed to the full view of the audience. After that there was a hushed silence, only broken by the minister who wanted to state his views. He said that they had all listened to the different expressions of opinion from experts in their way, and the architect had taken notes of all that was required, which would give them a hall second to none in the country. As for himself, he did not require much beyond tip-up seats upholstered in plush. But upon being told that tip-up seats would have to be screwed to the floor, which would preclude any Boy Scouts' demonstration or dancing in the winter, he withdrew his remark and instead suggested that a smoke room with billiard table be provided for the gentlemen, this he said would

knit the parish closer together. After the meeting the company dispersed, the architect promising to embody the various suggestions in a complete scheme for the next meeting.

The deliberations of the committee appeared in the local Press on Saturday evening, together with a picture of the proposed hall. And on the Sunday at church, an architect was seen sitting in the front pew entering into the singing and prayers with great gusto. He attracted much attention from the congregation. Whether it was from his stature, which was tall, or his appearance, which was domineering, or his eyes as they followed the curve of the pitchpine roof timbers, or his intense devotion, I do not know. But there he was. Almost behind him was another architect doing the same thing, but by the manner he eyed the first, his thoughts were anything but Christian.

After the service was over, the first—as soon as decency would allow—just forestalled the second by a fraction of a minute, as he hurried into the vestry, and before the Rev. Kneb had time to divest himself of his surplus, had gripped his hand.

"My dear Kneb!" cried the stranger warmly. "Congratulations upon your sermon. You remember me, don't you, at college. Crawwood, you know."

"Ah, to be sure!" replied the Rev. Kneb. "So you liked my sermon?"

"I did; and think that the church is most progressive. This is owing to the broadminded principles of its minister."

The Rev. Kneb smiled broadly, and looked exceedingly pleased. "You know that one of our flock has left a large sum of money for the building of a hall," he said.

"Someone was telling me," replied the stranger truthfully. "Let me see, who is the architect; it is always interesting to us professional gentlemen."

"An architect has not been appointed," replied the Rev. Kneb. "Mr. Doughty Sherl has prepared a plan for us. He is at once architect and builder, and is doing the architectural work out of pure love."

Crawwood was for a moment taken back; but architects are equal to any emergency.

"But excuse me, Kneb, did you not take as text in your sermon: 'The Labourer is worthy of his hire?'" he said.

"I did."

"Well, it stands to reason that if you are going to have this labour done for nothing, it will be worth nothing. See?"

"I did not see it in that light," replied the Rev. Kneb, innocently.

"I don't suppose that you did," exclaimed the architect. "But how is Mrs. Kneb. I should very much like to be introduced to her."

"Then you shall," replied the Rev. Kneb.

"My dear Crawwood, until we know how much money is to come to us, we can make no appointment of architect. But if you would care to make a sketch embodying all of our requirements, and bring it to the next meeting of the committee, I shall be delighted."

These were the concluding words of the Rev. Kneb as he ushered Crawwood into the open air, after Crawwood had made himself extremely agreeable to both the Rev. Kneb and his wife, which proves that some architects would make excellent ambassadors.

The lack of information as to the extent of the Peter Post estate was extremely scanty. The solicitors were very reticent over the matter, and no inkling leaked out upon which an estimate could be based. To be a residuary legatee is undoubtedly full of staggering surprises, and conjectures, and the expectant one is liable to inflate the legacy, hence rumour had it that the amount would probably be more or less in the neighbourhood of £10,000. This was a fair estimate, declared those who pretended to have inside information. In fact, Mr. Peter Post must have realised the high cost of building to-day and had adjusted his legacy accordingly. The new Hall would probably run to that figure.

However, this suspense did not hinder the minister and committee proceeding with the scheme, and when Mr. Doughty Sherl was ready with his plans a public meeting was called in the school room. The evening newspaper had given full publicity to the affair, and the room was rather full.

There was an effervescence of emotion when, at the invitation of the Rev. Kneb, Mr. Doughty Sherl unfolded his plans and pinned them upon the wooden partition that divided the large room. He had executed fresh sketches, but the front door feature, with the swollen pilasters and scallop shell overdoor, still claimed intimate relationship.

When all the excitement had evaporated, the Rev. Kneb stood upon his feet and coughed as if he was commencing a Sunday sermon.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he said, in an important voice, "we have gathered together to consider the plans for the new Peter Post Memorial Hall prepared by Mr. Doughty Sherl. The various activities have not been overlooked for at the last meeting he (the architect) took down their measurements. The plan has been prepared to fit them. (Laughter.) I hope it will not be long before we shall all see the new suit of clothes. They will be fashionable, I assure you. (Laughter.) You will agree with me that Mr. Peter Post was a generous gentleman with a heart that throbbed for the parish. We only felt those heart beats after they had ceased to sound. But in the spiritual realms he is doubtless looking down upon this meeting wondering when we are going to fulfil his wish. We have made a commencement. Mr. Doughty Sherl has given us an idea—all for nothing. But I never knew before how anxious architects were to help us—they must be dear, inestimable kind gentlemen. Before calling upon Mr. Sherl to explain the scheme to you, I will tell you a secret. I have an architect up my sleeve who has kindly executed for me one or two sketches. I am sure Mr. Sherl will not mind." He looked towards Mr. Sherl, whose face had fallen slightly, but who still smiled blandly. "The architectural body, I am glad to say, stands aloof from any petty jealousies that are often the attributes of professional gentlemen. Therefore, if Mr. Crawwood will kindly show us his sketches I will be obliged."

Mr. Crawwood stepped forward and, unrolling his sketches, pinned them alongside those of Mr. Sherl's. It was clearly to be seen that Mr. Sherl's elevation stood out the best. Probably he had experienced subtle art of the scene painter at the theatre, because his work developed at a distance.

"Now, ladies and gentlemen, I——" commenced Mr. Kneb, but before he could continue one of the committee stood up and in a modest kind of voice said:—

"May I exhibit some sketches I have here? They were prepared by an architectural friend of mine at my request?"

The desired permission having been given, the sketches were pinned alongside those of Mr. Crawwood's. Scarcely had this been done when a lady stood up.

"Mr. Kneb," she said, in a shrill kind of voice, "I hold several sketches in my hand for the new Hall. They were prepared by a friend of mine—a lady—who has great skill with her pencil, and instead of becoming an architect she got married against her friends' wishes, and now is the creator of a large family instead of buildings. She would have made a good lady architect. May I pin these sketches besides the others?" The speaker concluded by looking fiercely around as if defying anyone to contradict her.

Permission being given, the sketches were pinned against the others, but so faint were they that they could hardly be discerned.

Mr. Kneb sat down with a look of whimsical resignation. "Any more?" he exclaimed, glancing apologetically at Mr. Sherl, who did not appear to be very overjoyed. "I feel most embarrassed."

Mr. Sherl looked daggers at Mr. Sherl, and Mr. Sherl looked another way. A kind of twitter went on amid the most irresponsible of the audience, which soon resolved itself into a free confessional when the various designs were criticised. Some of the ladies arose from their seats and inspected the plans closer. Soon the meeting got quite

beyond control until a boy entered the room armed with a long envelope.

"No more sketches, I hope?" exclaimed the minister.

The meeting became hushed at once. Those who had stood up sat down, and all eagerly awaited to hear what the minister had to say, for he had opened the letter, and had changed colour.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he said, with some difficulty, for his emotion was such that words became affected, "I have had a letter from the solicitors acting for the estate of Mr. Peter Post. Will you allow me to read it?"

He waited a while until there was perfect quietness, and then read:—

"DEAR SIR,—

Estate of Mr. Peter Post, deceased.

"I now have pleasure in sending you herewith cheque value 19s. 4d., being the amount due to the trustees of the Church of the residuary estate of the above deceased, as per the enclosed copy statement of accounts and final distribution account. Will you kindly receipt and return the enclosed form of receipt?"

"Yours truly.

"BURST AND BUNCOM."

When Mr. Kneb had concluded reading the missal, he folded it up very neatly and deliberately put it back in the envelope again, and then thanking the architects and the audience, walked from the room, with his head in the air.

When he had gone the meeting gave voice to remarks that perhaps the less said about the better. It was fortunate that Mr. Peter Post was where he was.

Reconstitution of the Board of Architectural Education.

In the year 1920 the Council of the R.I.B.A. decided on the reconstitution of the Board of Architectural Education as soon as the necessary powers had been granted by the Privy Council. A new Charter having come into operation this year, the matter was at once taken into consideration and the new constitution of the Board has now been approved by the Council.

It has been decided to make the Board fully representative and bring it into touch with other bodies having interests allied to or bound up with those of architectural education, to enlarge its scope and to enable it to discharge its proper functions as the central authority, under the Council of the R.I.B.A., advising on architectural education throughout the kingdom and the Dominions.

With this object in view the Board is to be reconstituted and is to have under it three Committees with executive powers in all routine matters, viz., Schools, Examinations and Prizes and Scholarship Committees—the Board itself, subject to confirmation by the Council, dealing with matters of general principle and policy. The Committees being formed of representatives with great experience in the matters with which they will have to deal, and having power to act, greater efficiency and expedition is to be expected. Besides the Committees there will be a small Board of Moderators, who will deal with the standard of the examinations and testimonies of study and the setting and marking of the actual examination papers. A small Visiting Board will perform similar functions in connection with the schools and by periodical visits will be able to keep the Schools Committee in touch with all the schools recognised by the R.I.B.A. and ensure that a uniform standard is maintained. The inclusion of R.I.B.A. members, not specially concerned with education, both on the Board and on the Committees, will make for breadth of view in the Board and for a wider knowledge of the Board's work in the Institute at large. By all of these means co-ordination is to be expected, and the advice and assistance of the State and other educational authorities will be of great value and will enable the Board to discharge its duties with greater weight and efficiency, as will be seen

from the proposed constitution which follows, the list being subject, of course, to acceptance from the bodies concerned. The Chairman of the Board is Mr. Maurice E. Webb (F.), D.S.O., M.C., Mr. Walter Cave (F.), and Mr. Henry M. Fletcher, M.A. (F.) are Vice-Chairmen, and Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan (F.) is Hon. Secretary.

1. CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.—One representative from each School of Architecture recognised for exemption from the Final Examination (at present seven, omitting McGill University and Sydney University). Six representatives of the Governing Bodies of the Universities, including Oxford, Cambridge and London, and three others to be nominated by the Standing Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of Great Britain and Ireland. The Director of Education, School of Architecture, the Architectural Association.

Schools of Architecture recognised for exemption only from the Intermediate Examination—one representative for every two Schools by invitation (at present eight, including the Northern Polytechnic and the R.W.A. School of Architecture, Bristol, but excluding the Bombay School of Art and the University of Toronto).

Polytechnics teaching Architecture, Technical Schools teaching Architecture, Art Schools teaching Architecture (to be nominated by the Society of Art Masters); H.M. Board of Education; the Director of Education, the London County Council; the Headmasters' Conference; the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants; the Institute of Builders; the Master of the Art Workers' Guild; the Royal Society of Arts; the Incorporation of Architects in Scotland; the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland; the British School of Rome, Faculty of Architecture; the Royal Academy School of Architecture; the President of the Town Planning Institute; the President R.I.B.A.; the Hon. Secretary R.I.B.A.; the Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference; the President of the Architectural Association; thirteen R.I.B.A. Members, excluding the Officers of the Board, to be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Board of Architectural Examination (one-third, excluding the Officers of the Board, to retire every year).

2. SCHOOLS COMMITTEE.—One representative from each School of Architecture recognised for exemption from the Final Examination (at present seven, omitting McGill University and Sydney University); one representative from each School of Architecture recognised for exemption only from the Intermediate Examination (at present eight, including the Northern Polytechnic and the R.W.A. School of Architecture, Bristol, but excluding the Bombay School of Art and the University of Toronto); R.I.B.A. Members; H.M. Board of Education Inspector; the Director of Education, the London County Council; Polytechnics, Technical Schools and Art Schools teaching Architecture; R.I.B.A. Visiting Board.

3. PRIZES AND SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE.—A Vice-Chairman of the Board (Chairman); R.I.B.A. Members; Schools of Architecture; R.I.B.A. and other Prize Winners; the Director of Education, the London County Council; H.M. Board of Education; British School at Rome, Faculty of Architecture.

4. EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE.—A Vice-Chairman of the Board (Chairman); the Board of Moderators; R.I.B.A. Examiners (Intermediate Examination and Final Examination); the Registration Committee; R.I.B.A. Statutory Examiners; R.I.B.A. Town Planning Examiners; R.I.B.A. Members; the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants.

5. BOARD OF MODERATORS.—R.I.B.A. Members (ex-Examiners).

6. R.I.B.A. VISITING BOARD.—The Chairman of the Board, Chairman of the Visiting Board; a Vice-Chairman of the Board; the Hon. Secretary of the Board; a Teaching Member.

7. PROBLEMS IN DESIGN AND TESTIMONIES OF STUDY.—A panel of twelve Examiners will be set up to deal with problems in Design and Testimonies of Study.

Competition News.

Royal National Eisteddfod, 1926.

Architectural Competition Subjects.

Design for a National Parliament House for Wales. No age limit. Prize £100. Design for a Street Facade to a large stores (competitors not to be over 21 years of age on January 1, 1926), prize £25, given by the South Wales Institute of Architects, Western Branch. Set of Measured Drawings of Architecture (no age limit), prize £25 given by Mr. Ernest E. Morgan, A.R.I.B.A., borough architect, Swansea.

CONDITIONS.

(A) NATIONAL PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

The designs will be judged on excellence in general planning and design, rather than upon a close study of the particular requirements of such a building. The site is to be an open one in a large park, sloping gently to the south. The total area of the building itself should not exceed 60,000 square feet. The accommodation is to comprise the following:—A good central hall. A House of Commons about 2,000 ft. in area to accommodate about 100 members, and having some accommodation for the public; an entrance lobby and division lobbies or corridors. A Senate Chamber of similar kind to the House of Commons but rather smaller. Library, writing rooms, tea and dining rooms, smoking room, Press room, etc. Rooms for the speakers, ministers, secretaries, etc. These may be from about 400 ft. in area downwards. Committee rooms, waiting rooms, rooms for clerks and staff. Cloak rooms and lavatory accommodation, stores, etc. The general drawings are to be to a scale of 16 feet to 1 inch, and are to comprise a plan of each floor, two elevations and one section or more, as necessary. A detail drawing, to a scale of half-an-inch to a foot, of a portion of the building is to be given. This is not to be larger than an imperial sheet of paper. A small lay-out plan of the general scheme may be given if desired. No perspective drawings are to be given. The drawings may be in ink or pencil, and coloured or not, at the discretion of competitors, but they must shew clearly the open spaces and the portions that are in section. They should be mounted on strainers or cards, should not be unduly large, and margins, if provided, should not be more than 3 inches in width.

(B) STREET FACADE.

The front is to be treated as one in a continuous line of buildings. The width, measured to the outside of the flank walls, is 100 feet. The height of the wall is not to be more than four storeys or may be less, but a roof storey in addition may be shown at the competitor's discretion. It is to be assumed that there is a staircase at one end of the frontage, with a doorway on to the street in addition to the general entrance. Sufficient plans and sections of the front wall are to be given to explain the treatment fully, and it may be assumed, if desired, that the flank walls will show above the adjacent buildings, and in that case some indication may be given of the proposed treatment of them, but such treatment must be of a kind that would be possible under actual conditions as regards projections, etc. The general drawing is to be to a scale of 8 feet to an inch, and a detail drawing to a scale of half an inch to a foot is to be given. This is to show a portion of the front to the full height of the building in plan, elevation, and section. It may be broken off here and there, if necessary, in order to go on an imperial sheet of paper. Conditions as to finish of drawings are the same as in the previous competition.

(C) MEASURED DRAWINGS.

Competitors are free to submit drawings to any scale of any building, or detail, either ancient or modern, but if modern work is chosen, it must be of sound, capable design, and anything that does not comply with this stipulation will be rejected. In every case the actual survey, sketches and measurements must be delivered with the drawings and will be considered in making the award. The intention is to leave competitors as free as possible in their choice of subject, but other things being equal, a careful study of a complete building, in plan, elevation and section, with details, would receive favourable consideration. Draughtsmanship will be taken fully into account, but the purpose of the competition is to encourage the study of architecture from actual buildings, monuments or details. Drawings may be in pencil, ink, or colour, and must be mounted on strainers or cards.

Arthur Keen, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., architect, has been appointed by the President of the R.I.B.A., to act as assessor.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS (ARCHITECTURE).

1. ENTRY FORMS.—The Committee desires that intending competitors shall send to the General Secretary, between May 1 and May 10, 1926, the entry form C, which may be obtained from the General Secretary, Mr. W. Talog Williams, 24 Goat Street, Swansea.

2. No indication is to be given on any drawing or wrapper or otherwise of the author's identity, but each parcel of drawings is to contain a sealed envelope containing the author's name and address, with the competitor's *nom de plume* clearly written on the outside. Cost of return postage or carriage to be enclosed.

The envelope will not be opened until the Assessor's award has been made.

Any attempt made by a competitor to disclose his identity will disqualify him from competing.

3. DELIVERY OF DRAWINGS.—The drawings are to be delivered, carriage paid, addressed to Mr. Ernest E. Morgan, A.R.I.B.A., 3 Prospect Place, Swansea, not earlier than July 5, 1926, and not later than 5 o'clock on July 12, 1926. Each package must be endorsed on the outside as follows: "Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales, 1926." "Architecture."

Houses for Middle Class Workers.

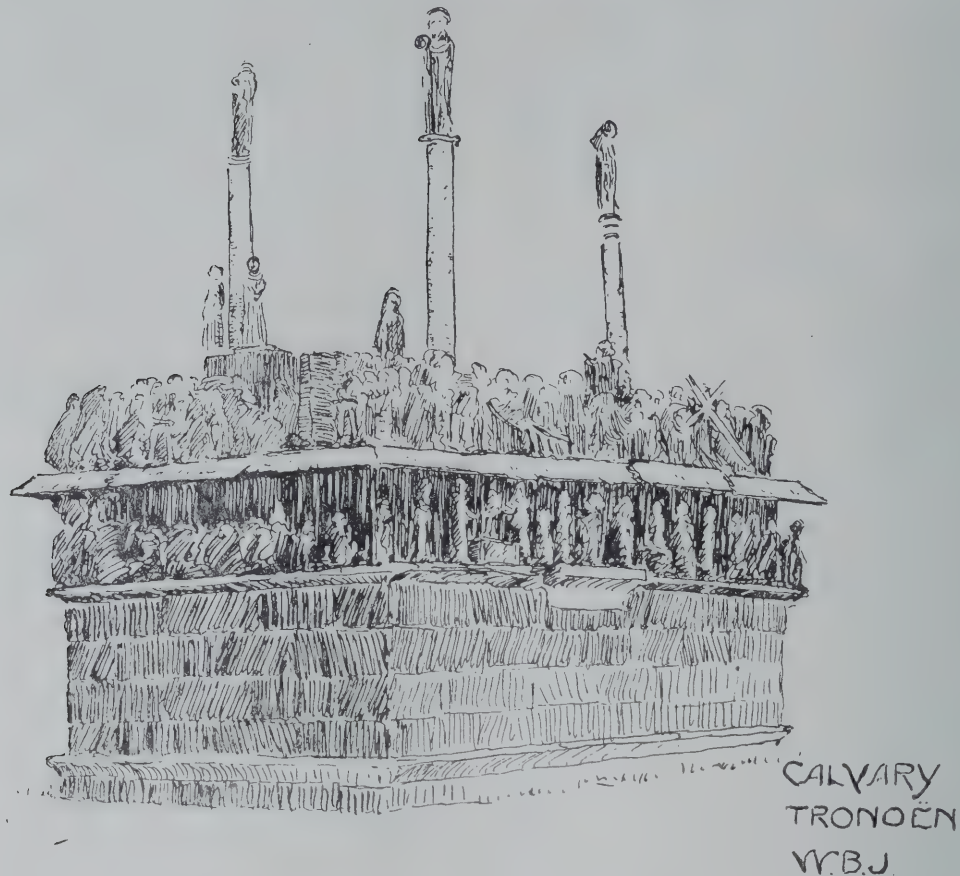
Housing is a burning question in every country and for all Governments, but only the housing of workers, as distinct from other classes, has been energetically taken in hand by the authorities and contractors. The smaller middle classes have everywhere had to shift for themselves. It is therefore of great interest to learn that by the generosity of an American, Mr. Willard Reed Messenger, engineer, New York, an International Competition with a view to promoting and facilitating the construction of houses for the smaller middle classes and intellectual workers is to be inaugurated. Mr. Messenger is offering a first prize of 500 dollars, a second prize of 300 dollars, and a third prize of 200 dollars. The competition is to be held under the auspices of the International Federation of Building and Public Works (whose headquarters are in Paris), and which has recently held its International Congress, when 42 countries were represented. Certain rules regulating the competition have been formulated and the jury will be composed of eleven members, representing various nationalities. Competitors will be required to send in sketches, descriptive particulars of any new processes of construction proposed, and of schemes intended to reduce costs. Doubtless this remarkable competition will create world wide interest, especially among architects, and those desirous of submitting designs should write to the Director-General of the International Federation, 17 Avenue Carnot, Paris, for full particulars of the competition. The memorandum and sketches have to be delivered not later than January 14 next. The results will be published before the end of February, 1926.

Other Competitions.

	Sending in date.
Argentine Institute. Premiums 1 0,000, 6,000, 4,000, 3,000, 2,000 gold pesos. Apply particulars, 35 Old Queen Street, S.W.1	Dec. 31.
New Buildings for Liverpool College, Mossley Hill. Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A., Assessor. Premiums: £500, £300 and £200. Apply to J. H. Lintern, Secretary, Liverpool College, Sefton Park Road, Liverpool	1926. Jan. 1.
Houses for Smaller Middle-Classes and Intellectual Workers. Prizes: 1st, 500 dollars; 2nd, 300 dollars; 3rd, 200 dollars, as per particulars given above	Jan. 14.
Australian War Memorial, Canberra. Open to architects of Australian birth. Apply High Commissioner, Australia House, Strand, London	Mar. 31.
Plan for construction of Conference Hall, for League of Nations, Geneva. International Competition. 100,000 Swiss francs to be divided among architects submitting best plans. Programmes will be deposited in due course with R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, where intending competitors should apply. Single copies from Secretary-General, League of Nations, Geneva, on payment of 20 Swiss francs. —	—
Art Gallery and Museum, Birkenhead. Limited to competitors practising within 20 miles of Birkenhead since January 1, 1923. Premiums: £250, £175, £100. Sir Robert Lorimer, A.R.A., assessor. £2 2s. deposit. Apply Curator, Central Public Library, Birkenhead	Jan. 30.

From Menhir to Calvary.

By W. Branch Johnson.



In a countryside which resists, not altogether unsuccessfully, the process of modernisation, the Calvaries of Brittany occupy a unique place. Nowhere else is their like to be found—for the reason that nowhere else do the common people cling so stubbornly to the tradition of Paganism. And the Calvary is the direct descendant of Paganism.

Granite forms the foundation and the walls of Brittany; but even before the Celts had migrated thither in the 6th century B.C. the original inhabitants had discovered that granite, lying as it does on or near the surface of the soil and thus requiring no or little quarrying, could be employed for two of the most essential of primitive human purposes—war and religion. It may be—it is still a matter on which it is legitimate to take sides—it may be that the origin of the famous Lines of Carnac had some reference to defence; it is certain that the dolmens and menhirs which are scattered over the length and breadth of the province are the outward expressions, like the cathedrals of a later age, of the Druidical religion. The Celts, themselves Druids or adopting Druidism, added enormously to the number of these easily erected stone monuments during their five centuries of settlement.

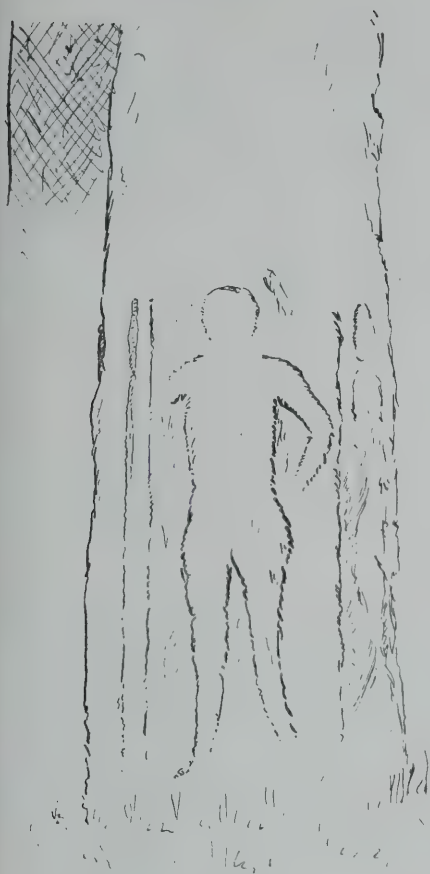
By the middle of the 1st century B.C. Cæsar had conquered Brittany; and Rome dominated it—yet strangely enough has left few traces of that domination—for the succeeding five hundred years. But so firmly implanted in the hearts of the Breton Celts was their ancient Druidism, that the Romans were cautious in inculcating the worship of their own gods. Their method may be seen upon the Menhir of Kerdavel (now in the park of the Château de Kernuz, near Pont l'Abbé), where a Mercury, a Jupiter, a Mars, a Venus and a Vulcan are carved into its granite sides. In like manner acted the Christian Saints, during the 5th and 6th centuries, in their attempts to impose a more humane religion on a people given over to blood-worship and superstition; they took shelter behind the older cults. Thus the Pierre du Miracle at Brigognan (Finistère) exhibits a stone cross upon its summit and another cross is carved upon its base. Upon the Menhir

du Champ Dolent near Dol, supposed according to a legend to have dropped from the skies and separated the combatants in a sanguinary pagan battle, a cross of wood replaces, probably, a former cross planted there in the dawn of Christianity.

As gradually the new religion gained ground, its adherents began to feel themselves in a position to take greater liberties with the relics of the old. At Locquenvel

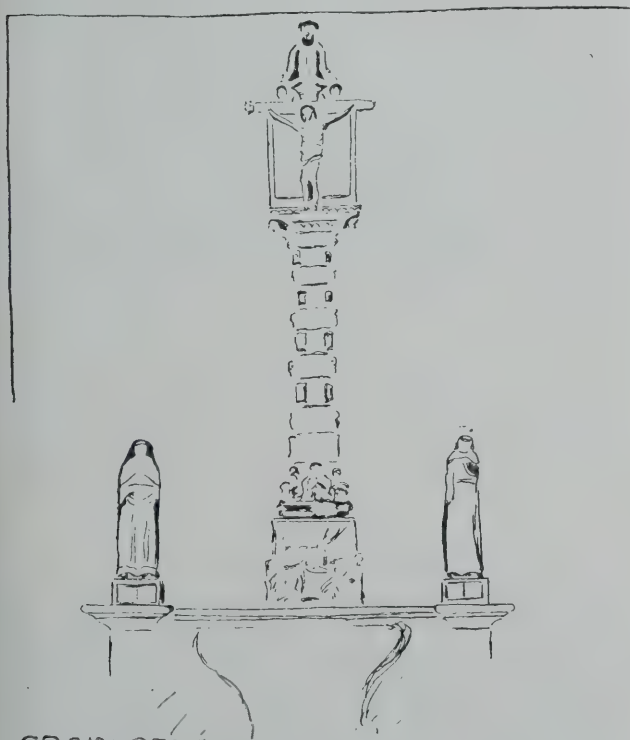


(Finistère) and in the Côtes-du-Nord may be seen menhirs sculptured into the forms of crosses and, in some cases, ornamented with figures; at St. Briac, at Carnac and elsewhere, overturned menhirs are surmounted by a cross and converted into pulpits or altar-tables; at Lanrivoaré, in addition to a statue of the Virgin, is a representation of St. Hervé, nephew of St. Rivoaré, turning into stone eight loaves of bread belonging to a baker who had refused alms to the saint. Thus, at least, runs the legend; in reality, the eight stones lying before him are ancient implements of the Druidical religion.



MENHIR OF
KEROYEL.
WBJ

It must often have been necessary in those—and later—days to keep before new converts—and old—signs and tokens of their conversion. Possibly, also, it may have been expedient to raise the interest of laggards by some form of advertisement. Again the menhirs were employed; on the Menhir de Saint-Duzec, near Trébeurden (Côtes-du-Nord), are carved the Instruments of the Passion—the ladder, the sponge, the hammer, the nails, the pincers; the Virgin weeps at the feet of Christ between the Sun and the Moon who veil their faces; the crowing cock recalls the denial of Peter. These *croix ornées*, as they are called, are particularly numerous in the province,



CROIX ORNÉE
MELRAND
WBJ

ranging from the simple stone cross above an open-air pulpit (as at St. Jean near Pont l'Abbé), through the naïve cross of Keryolet (Finistère) on which an angel is represented as receiving in two small cups the blood which flows from the wounds of Christ, to the more elaborate *ensemble* of the Holy Trinity, God the Father, Christ crucified, the Entombment, Christ carrying the Cross, and the heads of the Apostles at Melrand, near Pontivy. And so the gradual process of ripening, as it were, continues until, by a conjunction of all the divers elements, is produced the Calvary.

Calvaries have provided the themes for so many pens that there remains little more for me than to recall to the reader those that are already known to him. The earliest Calvary—that of Tronoën, conveniently reached from Pont l'Abbé—dates from the last years of the 15th century and exhibits scenes from the life of Christ. Both in conception and in execution it is simple compared with the famous one at Plougastel-Daoulas, built between the years of 1602 and 1604 to obtain the intercession of Heaven on the occasion of a great plague which had broken out in 1598. This elaborate construction draws its inspiration from that at Guimiliau, between Morlaix and Landerneau, which is



CROIX ORNÉE
ST. DUZEC
WBJ

dated some thirty years earlier and which (as at Ploudal-mézeau) includes among its scenes the popular folk-tale—subject doubtless of many a sermon preached at its foot—of Catell-Gollet or Catherine the Lost.

The Catherine of the tale was, it seems, excessively fond of dancing, and found before long an ideal dancing partner in a handsome youth who became her lover. But not only did she persistently refrain at confession from even so much as a whisper of her sin; she went to the terrible length of stealing a consecrated wafer for the youth who had complained of hunger. Such sacrilege could not but call down the anger of Heaven. She was condemned to eternal punishment and carried off the very next day to Hell by her dancing partner who, in truth, was none other than Satan in disguise. By a special privilege, due to the love he bore her, she was allowed once to return to earth, surrounded by flames, with serpents in her mouth and salamanders in her eyes, to warn her earthly companions against her fate and to pour *malédiction*s sur les bals et sur les danses qui m'ont fait tomber dans le péché.

Guimiliau, Plougastel-Daoulas and Saint-Thégonnec represent the heyday of the Calvary. Decadence first makes itself felt at Pleyben (Finistère), where spontaneity has given place to deliberate archaism and sincerity to

conscious decoration—a decadence not surprising when we remember that the work dates from the early days of Louis XIV. But to describe or even to mention every Calvary in Brittany would prove an impossible task. Napoleon I, I believe, when he inspected the province, conceived the idea of having all its Calvaries restored; but finding upon inquiry that they numbered thousands, had reluctantly to abandon the scheme on account of its cost. They flourished in Brittany during the 16th and 17th centuries—sometimes, apparently, the outcome of devotion competitively expressed; sometimes, in the case of those Calvaries the shaft of whose Cross is thorny, to seek Divine relief in times of plague or upheaval. More and more elaborate did they become with their painted figures and classical ornamentation; but in the 18th century their popularity waned in favour of the life-sized statue-groups of the Entombment in wood or stone, still found at the entrance to cemeteries. Yet a few were erected, as, for example, at Comfort, between Douarnenez and Audierne, and at Campéneac (now in the Musée Céramique at Rennes).

To-day, even, new ones make their occasional appearance in villages and at cross roads. One of the best, erected about 1830 and little more than an effective cross, is at Plouézoch (Finistère), another at Paimpol; but of the majority it is not entirely unfair to suggest that, æsthetically at least, they show signs of return to that Paganism from whence they sprang.

How to Save Money.

Most people are interested in the subject of saving money and yet very few actually practice the art in a really beneficial manner to themselves. Some begin by cutting expenses in one direction and spending more money in other ways. The true method lies in a proper organisation of one's entire life. One of the first things that needs an appreciative realisation is the fact that every moment of our lives involves some form of expenditure. As soon as this fact has been impressed upon the mind, the matter of saving money will appear much simpler. In organising one's life the necessity of purchasing things at the correct and most favourable time will be soon manifested to all those who seriously desire to get the maximum value for their money. In other words, by all those who truly desire to save money. One of the chief obstacles to saving wealth is man's slavery to habits and customs. The commercial world's first duty is to study the habits and customs of their clients. Very few clients study these things, and in consequence fall easy victims. Instead of waiting until Christmas comes it is wiser and less expensive to buy presents in January for the next year. It is always unwise and expensive to wait until any season is at its height. At these times the necessary goods are at a maximum price. A well-organised life will consistently take advantage of a depressed market and very possibly save 20 per cent. and secure better quality and attention.

The majority procrastinate. The failing is not national but universal. There need be no fear that the whole community is suddenly going to grow wiser and thus hinder the realisation of the advantages to be secured by those who live a well-organised existence. Many other factors play an active rôle in the lives of many. Not a few are unable to take advantage of favourable opportunities because they do not possess reserve funds. But many thousands do possess these things and still permit opportunities without number to pass. Why do householders only think of painting their houses in the spring? It is the custom to do so, but there is no real tangible reason why one should live during the winter months surrounded by decorations whose beauty have lost their freshness.

On the contrary, every effort should be made to make the wintery months less depressing. Those who decorate their houses during the autumn and winter months secure first-class quality and attention. The season is at its lowest and many estimates should be materially advantageous in consequence. Because the evenings are long and frequently

the skies are dull is no reason to suppose that more dirt fills the air than in the springtime.

Far less road dust is to be seen in the damper period of the year. Those who live in the city or near a busy road know only too well the disfiguring effects of a coat of brown dust on freshly-painted surfaces. The spring is full of sunshine and human nature has accustomed itself to imagine that life is full of hope in the spring. This is a mental weakness. Life is the same all the year round. Hope and joy are feelings within ourselves, the outcome of careful organisation. Only the unwise permit golden opportunities to pass because of some foolish slavery to customs.

The Architecture Club.

The Architecture Club held its ninth dinner on Thursday, November 5th, in the Abraham Lincoln Room of the Savoy Hotel. All present enjoyed the very pleasant evening, the speeches were good and interesting. The president of the Club, Mr. J. C. Squire, referred to the noticeable habit of the Press in creating comment upon things ugly. He thought that it would be more beneficial if the Press were to take a greater interest in buildings which the public should and could admire. In giving voice to this very laudable desire, we fear Mr. Squire has lost sight of a very unfortunate fact, namely, of the greater public interest in all things which are bad, ugly and sordid. What lasting attention or interest does the narrative of the life of a really worthy man arouse by comparison with the columns of publicity afforded to the describing of a sordid crime. Mr. Squire also referred to the defacement of buildings by advertising signs. Whilst we are in full agreement with the remarks concerning this lamentable state of affairs, we think that the present conditions prevailing in Piccadilly Circus will lead to its total reconstruction in a far speedier way than if the advertising did not exist. Public opinion is bound to revolt against the defacement of a centre, once it is in possession of the finished Swan & Edgar block and the New County Fire offices, these two buildings will show up the ghastly exhibition of advertisements in such a way as to force, not only their removal, but the demolition of the houses that they at present deface. Mr. Gordon Selfridge, the proposer of the toast of Architecture, spoke of his personal love for things beautiful as expressed in architecture. He thought that the profession should endeavour to create for themselves a position of authority so that no public buildings or street reconstruction schemes could be undertaken without the opinion of the representative body of the profession being taken. Mr. E. Guy Dawber, the President of the R.I.B.A., responding to the above toast, stated that the Royal Institute of British Architects, were aware of the fact that they had outgrown their present accommodation at Conduit Street, and that they were fully alive to the necessity of finding a place that would be more representative of the importance of the profession. He referred to the gradual spoilation of all country towns and districts by the erection of buildings out of keeping with their beautiful surroundings. This sad fact has long had our sympathy. It is hardly possible to pass through the high street of any country town and not notice the beautiful buildings of the past surrounded by some truly dreadful places built without a single thought for things beautiful.

Town Planning.

TOWN PLANNING AND STUDENTS OF ARCHITECTURE.

On Monday, November 16, at 8 p.m., Dr. Raymond Unwin will deliver a lecture at the Royal Institute of British Architects entitled "The Architect and his City." The main purpose of the lecture is to interest students of architecture in the subjects of town planning and housing, and it is the special hope of the Council that there will be a large gathering of students from the Schools of Architecture in the London area. Admission to the meeting will be free, and it is only necessary for those attending to sign their names in the book on arrival.

Exhibition and Art Galleries.

The Beaux Arts Gallery.

The exhibition of Miss Elizabeth Keith's work at the Beaux Arts Gallery, 1 Bruton Place, New Bond Street, W.1, represents a very successful attempt to incorporate in modern work many of the wonderful effects of Japanese colour printing. Some of Miss Keith's designs are admirably selected and executed. She has caught the eastern atmosphere in many of her compositions, which lend them additional charm and character. Some of the prints represent very elaborate craftsmanship, as many as fourteen different blocks and printings having been necessary in their production. The catalogue indicates those prints which are out of print and which in many cases are bound to become of additional value as time goes on. The present exhibition consists of 52 prints, which are grouped under four titles according to the character of the subjects, which include 20 Korean, 15 Chinese, 15 Philippine and two Japanese pictures.



MORO VILLAGE, ZAMBOANGA. MISS ELIZABETH KEITH.

At the Leicester Galleries.

When regarding such a show as these paintings of Miss Beatrice Bland's, one almost inevitably recalls the lines of Omar Khayyam :

"I sometimes think, that never blows so red
The rose, as where some buried Cæsar bled ;
That every hyacinth the garden wears,
Dropped in her lap from some once lovely head."

There is a sense of human intimacy in all the work, which few artists, other than Fantin-Latour, have imparted to their productions. It is, indeed, the artist, Fantin-Latour, whose name of necessity rises in one's thoughts on viewing this exhibition, as it is the poet, Omar, whom we have quoted. There is a simpatica, a personal rapprochement in the treatment, which is as rare as it is welcome. Nor is it really possible to rank any one painting as better than any other ; and even if we select No. 33 (Japanese iris and other

flowers) as meriting special notice, due perhaps to a somewhat more intense harmony, it is in a degree unfair to every other exhibit, which all together unite in a perfect agrément of colour and poetry.

In an adjoining gallery to Miss Bland's artistic poems is a series of oil and water colour paintings from the brush of Mr. Walter W. Russell, A.R.A., dealing with Venice and elsewhere ; two-thirds of the exhibition is Venetian, the rest is miscellaneous.

The oil paintings appeal to us more than the others, as there is not the same quality of flatness apparent. Some of the subjects are manipulated in both mediums (of course, on separate canvases or panels), and in most cases there is a richness in the oil medium, which is lacking elsewhere. The subjects which attracted us most were Nos. 8 and 27 ("The Salute from the Riva degli Schiavoni"), 22 ("Southwick Lock"), and Nos. 11 and 34 ("San Giorgio Maggiore"). No. 31 ("St. Mark's") is clever as a sketch, but is less satisfactory as a picture. Some (such as Nos. 15, 24 and 36) gain by more distant inspection ; No. 15 especially ("The Bathers") has a sense of atmosphere, masses well and is a pleasant exponent of soft colouring. Mr. Russell has a good model in the young lady represented in Nos. 3, 9, and 17. His is a sufficiently noticeable show without being a notable one.

The International Society of Sculptors, Painters and Gravers, Royal Academy, Piccadilly, W.

If this exhibition is representative of International Art, not only in the sense of being a collection of pictures, engravings and sculpture from many different countries and nations, but also in the sense of voicing an opinion as to what the nations consider worthy in Art, we may conclude as futurist and cubist works are omitted that the international authorities realise that these styles of expression do not come under the classification of serious art.

Many exhibits bear the imprint of having been considerably influenced by futuristic ideas. Many Artists have learnt much from the extremists. On the other hand, only very few examples of the painstaking, highly-finished, realistic representations of nature are to be found in the show. The whole exhibition is distinctly modern in character and, as such, interesting. British Sculpture is not well represented, three busts by Mr. Epstein occupy prominent positions. The whole exhibition is not strong in plastic exhibits.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

NOVEMBER 13, 1875.

THE POSITION OF THE LAW OF ANCIENT LIGHTS.

It is in no spirit of mere *esprit de corps* that we express the earnest hope that these cases of litigation may before long be handed over wholly to the investigation of architects instead of lawyers. Those who have had the greatest experience of them are probably the most ready to declare the opinion that hitherto the law courts have proved themselves in all such questions to be a most unfortunate failure. That costs have accumulated frightfully is not all ; what is called "the glorious uncertainty of the law" (as sad and sorry a joke as ever was perpetrated) has had the most unlimited play ; decisions that had all the appearance, not of the utmost integrity alone and the utmost anxiety for substantial justice, but of the most successful application of incontrovertible principles of common sense and fair play, have turned out in practice to be utter blunders ; and, beyond all, a statute which was honestly intended to protect honest rights within reasonable limits has been allowed to become in its operation so oppressive, not to say ruinous, as to interfere seriously with the value of private property and to stimulate incessant quarrels without cause.

New Showrooms.

New and well appointed showrooms are being opened by Messrs. B. Finch & Co., Ltd., of Lambeth, at 34 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. Sanitary fittings are shown in an effective and pleasing manner. Much thought and care has been devoted to the accomplishment of this purpose, and visitors will realise the fine quality of the display.

Correspondence.

Tintern Abbey.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—In THE ARCHITECT for November 6, 1925, there is an article on Tintern Abbey "From a Correspondent." I do not know who the correspondent is, but I think it probable that he is not entirely unconnected with the Office of H.M. Works, and as my name is mentioned in the article I may be permitted to briefly reply.

Of all the monastic ruins which I have visited Tintern was the loveliest, but that was prior to the intrusion of a Government Department. The ivy and flowers upon the walls, and the walls themselves, created a poetic beauty which officials at once removed or otherwise spoiled. One excuse is, and there is not the least foundation for it in fact, that the roots of ivy, by their penetration into the walls, rendered them unsafe, but quite the contrary, it was the tearing of them out which created the mischief.

Your correspondent tells us the dimensions of the south wall of the nave which has to be dealt with, and his remark as to "wind pressure, dead load, stresses, eccentricity of the load, tensile stress, etc., etc., would, if I were given to mirth, make me laugh till I became silly. We are then told that the elaborate steel reinforcement described has been "adopted with the approval of the Ancient Monuments Board"—and I have noted this for future use. The ugly brick piers which I saw in July last, and to which I have directed public attention, and which your "correspondent" states are "temporary" and that the bricks "could easily be cleaned of mortar," and "sold after completion of the work," leads me to rejoice that I was under the impression that the piers were built in Portland Cement which, we know, cannot be easily cleaned from the bricks, and that the sale of them would, correspondingly, not be quite so remunerative, and as these temporary "piers and arches" have consumed about one million of bricks the item is not unimportant. This "temporary brickwork" would carry a distributed load of some hundred of tons, and all this waste of the public money to provide for the repair of the stonework of four or five Gothic arches and the arches over, when timber shoring and struts would have effectually done the job if a few practical masons and bricklayers had been employed under some local contractor.

I am,

Yours obediently,
WM. WOODWARD.

15 Great James Street,
Bedford Row, W.C.1.
November 11, 1925.

Art School Education.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—If only the Press would take up the subject of education seriously and hammer some real sense into those who control the whole system. I much appreciate the comments made in your issue of the 4th of November. Hundreds of art students leave their art schools to face a disillusion. In my own case my teacher informed me that the fault was my own, I had not possessed the gifts needed to make a success. Such a statement after having been seven years at the school was truly astounding, specially as I desired to leave after my third year and had only remained because I was awarded a scholarship at the school. For the following four years I assisted the teaching staff, taking over some elementary classes.

Comparing notes with other past students, my experiences do not appear to be in any way unique, in fact they are quite the usual. Local art schools are loth to part with any promising students, and to encourage them to remain modest scholarships are presented. The conclusion is obvious. The local school must benefit in some way by the retention of students of ability. Surely such selfishness is unthinkable, and if it exists should be discouraged. The public purse exists for the education of the individual so that he or she may be best fitted to fill a position of use to themselves and of benefit to the community. Every

designer who is trained at the expense of the nation and becomes successful in his work for an industry is an asset to the whole nation and represents money well invested by the educational authorities.

EXPERIENCED.

Legal News.

Architects Win Claims for Fees.

On Wednesday Mr. Justice Branson had before him an action brought by Mr. Thomas Dunham Atkinson and Mr. Charles William Long, carrying on business as Atkinson and Long, of 4 Trumpington Street, Cambridge, against the Wellbrook Sanitary Laundry Company, Ltd., of Girton, Cambridge, for professional fees alleged to be due. Defendants denied liability, and counterclaimed for fees paid to quantity surveyors under protest.

Mr. Le Quesne, K.C., Mr. Harold Simmons, and Mr. Graham were for the plaintiffs, and Mr. H. H. Joy, K.C., Mr. Fox Andrews, and Mr. Walter B. Frampton for defendants.

Counsel, opening the case for plaintiffs, said his clients were a well known firm of architects carrying on business in Cambridge and London, and the defendants a well-known sanitary laundry company, the lady directors of which were also well known. The dispute arose on a claim made by the plaintiffs as a firm in respect of work that was done for the defendants by Mr. Long, the second partner in the plaintiffs' firm. He was employed by the defendants, who were negotiating to make some alterations in their laundry premises, which were not extensive enough to cope with a growing business. The company declined to pay or admit any liability to Mr. Long, and their case, according to the pleadings, was that they stipulated with Mr. Long that he must draw his plans in such a way that the building construction must cost a maximum of £5,000. After the plaintiffs' work had been done and the plans before the defendant company tenders were asked for. The result was that the lowest received was from a firm in Cambridge for £7,300. Now the company said that Mr. Long was not to receive any fees at all. Plaintiffs' case was that no such terms were imposed on them at all, that they never knew and never undertook to prepare the plans for the limit of £5,000, and that the plans were so varied and so added to in the course of discussion that the defendants were aware that the work could not be carried through at a maximum of £5,000. Mr. Long was consulted by the defendants in March, 1923, but before that they had also consulted one or two other people, and more particularly a Mr. Barry Neame, the manager of a large London laundry, who made a report and a rough sketch of what he suggested should be done to enlarge the Girton laundry. Mr. Long's instructions were, in fact, to consider the report and sketch and base his plans as an architect on them. And from these two Mr. Long started on his plans and gave great time and trouble to them, as well as advising the directors of the company on the details of his proposed scheme. Despite this he advised them that the variations and additions would come to something over £6,000, but after further consultations this sum was reduced to about £5,250. When the tenders came in after the submission to builders of the quantity surveyor's estimates, the lowest tender received was £7,300. On this the defendants abandoned their scheme, and repudiated the contract with plaintiffs in respect of the work done.

Mr. Long, a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, practising since 1912, stated that he was now in practice in Bloomsbury and Cambridge, and was a partner in the plaintiffs' firm. He gave evidence as to his instructions, and said his claim was based on the scale of the Institute charges.

Mr. G. Nicholson, a quantity surveyor, of Northcroft, Neighbour and Nicholson, of Chancery Lane, gave evidence as to the figures prepared by him.

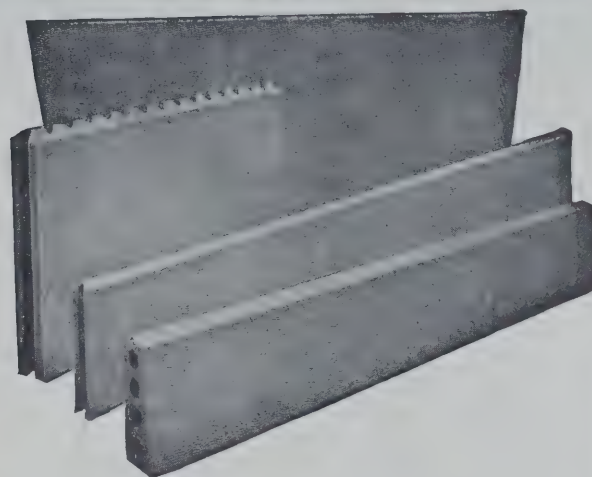
This was the plaintiffs' case, and Miss Campbell, the secretary of the defendant company, and Lady Darwin, a director, spoke to the defendants giving directions to the plaintiff that the alterations were not to exceed £5,000.

His Lordship, giving judgment, said he was satisfied that the Company knew about the extra cost on the variations and modifications and entered judgment for the plaintiffs for £398 13s. with costs, and dismissed the defendants' counterclaim with costs.

Messrs. J. H. Sankey & Son, Ltd., of Canning Town, request us to announce that their wholesale and export offices are now at 7-8 Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. Telephone No. 5077.

Wimbledon Corporation have accepted the tender, £6,924 18s., of Messrs. A. Luff & Sons, of Wimbledon, for the construction of 20 hard courts, formation of paths, etc., at Home Park Field.

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General News.

BASFORD.—The Board of Education have approved the plans of the Notts Education Committee for the Basford Boys' Secondary School, estimated to involve an expenditure of £44,000.

BEESTON.—The Board of Education have passed the plans of the Notts Education Committee for alterations at the Beeston Nether Street boys' school.

BILSTHORPE.—In connection with the erection by the Stanton Ironworks Co. of houses in the new colliery village at Bilsthorpe the Notts Education Committee have acquired a site for the erection of an elementary school for 744 children, estimated to cost £22,000, and for which plans are being prepared.

BLIDWORTH.—Notts Education Committee have purchased a site at Blidworth from the Newstead Colliery Co. for the erection of an elementary school.—The Ministry of Health have held an inquiry into the application of the Skegby Rural District Council for a loan of £17,000 for sewerage works for the parish of Blidworth, where it is estimated that 1,200 new houses will be erected within the next three years.

BOWDON.—The U.D.C. are proposing to erect 36 houses on Priory Road. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Halliday, Paterson & Agate, Architects, of 14 John Dalton Street, Manchester.

BRIGHTON.—A modified scheme has been prepared for the erection of a junior mixed school on the Hodsgrove Meadow site at a cost of about £13,000.—The Special Aquarium Committee have prepared an amended scheme for the reconstruction of the aquarium at a cost of £91,000.—The Markets Committee have considered plans prepared by the Borough Engineer for the provision of an open market, the cost being estimated at £15,465. As a first instalment the Committee propose to invite tenders for the erection of 42 stalls.—Plans and estimates are being prepared for the construction of a tidal bathing pool on the sea front.—The Borough Engineer has prepared a scheme for a promenade south of the sea wall from West Pier to Hove at a cost of £8,500.—Plans passed: garages and store, Round Hill Street, for Mr. E. J. Salvage; parish hall, Whippingham Road, for St. Wilfred's Church Council; 4 houses, Osborne Road, for Mr. J. Lewis; 6 houses, Hollingdean Terrace, for Mr. J. Ticehurst; blacksmith's shop, Freshfield Road, for Southdown Motor Services, Ltd.; 7 houses, Quarry Bank Road, for Mr. A. Gower; alterations, 7 Grand Junction Road, for Guardian Assurance Co., Ltd.

CATFORD.—Plans passed: garages, showrooms, flats and petrol station, Bromley Road, for Messrs. Pilmore, Bedford & Sons.

CHESTERFIELD.—The Board of Education have given provisional approval to the scheme for the proposed school in Highfield Lane.—Messrs. John Turner & Co. are negotiating with the Corporation in regard to their proposal to erect new premises at the junction of Packer's Row and Vicar Lane.—The Corporation are negotiating with the Miners' Welfare Committee regarding a site for baths at Hasland Green.—Messrs. Wagstaff & Sons have been instructed to prepare plans for houses on the Racecourse estate.—The Borough Engineer is to prepare plans for further development of the Highfield Hall housing estate.—The Tipton Estate Committee recommend the use of Tipton House primarily for the purposes of a museum and art gallery, part of the premises to be reserved for use as refreshment rooms.—Plans passed: houses on the Highfield estate, for Mr. A. Hardy of Newbold Road; warehouse extensions, Duke Street, Whittington Moor, for Mr. R. Hicks; extensions hydraulic department, Derby Road works, for Chesterfield Tube Co., Ltd.; 8 houses, Ashgate Road, for Messrs. Swift Bros. & Haslam, Ltd.; extensions, Sheffield Road, for Sheep-bridge Coal and Iron Co., Ltd.

EASTBOURNE.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Rotunda Road, for Mr. S. G. Scales, architect; 6 houses, Woodgate Road, for Mr. S. D. Foulkes; alterations, Marine Hotel, for Mr. A. D. Packham, architect, for Messrs. Tamplins & Sons; 3 houses, King's Avenue, for Mr. B. Stevens, architect; 6 houses, Royal Parade, for Mr. A. Ford, architect; 2 houses, Derwent Road, for Mr. P. D. Stoneham, architect.

EAST SUSSEX.—The County Council have decided to erect 15 cottages for police and roadmen in various districts.

EDWINSTOWE.—Plans of the Notts Education Committee for an elementary school for 744 scholars at Edwinstowe have been approved by the Board of Education.

ELTHAM.—Plans passed by L.C.C.; 16 houses, Cadwallon Road, for Messrs. Chatterton & Co.; 7 houses, Footscray Road, for Mr. W. E. Wright; 4 shops and flats, High Street, for Mr. W. C. Leslie; 4 houses, Footscray Road, for Mr. G. T. Scuda-

more; 11 houses, Westmount Road, for Messrs. J. H. Sutch & Sons; 4 houses, Park View Road, for Mr. E. R. Mace.

HEYSHAM.—The U.D.C. are to reconstruct the main road at a cost of £17,500.

LEWISHAM.—Messrs. W. Reynolds & Co. are to erect 6 semi-detached houses in Coniston Road, Lewisham.

MANCHESTER.—The authorities of the Lancashire Fusiliers, 8th Batt., Great Clowes Street, Lower Broughton, Manchester, are proposing to make improvements and alterations to their barracks in Great Clowes Street, Lower Broughton. The plans have been prepared by Col. Edward Garside, Civil Engineer and Surveyor, of Town Hall Chambers, Ashton-under-Lyne, and the contract has been placed with Messrs. Wellerman Bros., Ltd., Contractors, of Edward Street, Hyde. The steelwork will be by Messrs. C. C. Dunkerley & Son, Ltd., Store Street, Manchester.—Plans are being prepared by Mr. H. H. Brown, F.R.I.B.A., of 20 Brazenose Street, Manchester, for extensions to the Convalescent Homes at Plas Mareander, Deganwy, Llandudno, North Wales.—Mr. F. Riley, A.R.I.B.A., of Messrs. Brameld & Smith, Architects, of 4 Cannon Street, Manchester, has prepared plans for improvements to the "Royal Hotel," 116, Manchester Road, Droylsden, Manchester.—Contracts have been placed as follows: General contractor, Mr. Thomas Percival, Varley Street, Oldham Road, Miles Platting; Pasterers, Messrs. A. & S. Wallace, Ten Acres Lane, Newton Heath, Manchester; and the steelwork is by Messrs. James Bennett & Co., of 16, Deansgate, Manchester.—Plans have been prepared by the Borough Surveyor of Ashton-under-Lyne Council, Mr. J. Rowbottom, for 44 houses on a site at Pelham Street, Ashton, and the Corporation has accepted the tender of Messrs. T. Dean & Co., Ltd., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MANSFIELD.—The Trustees of Brunts School, Mansfield, have decided to build a new dining hall and a domestic subjects centre at a cost of £4,000.—The Board of Education have passed the plans of the Notts Education Committee for a technical school at Mansfield. The estimated cost is £39,350.

NEWSTEAD.—Additional school accommodation in Newstead is to be provided by the Notts Education Committee for about 500 scholars.

NOTTS.—The County Highways Committee recommend the tender of £49,972 2s. 9d. of Messrs. Purdie, Lumsden & Co., Ltd., of Newcastle, for the construction of Gunthorpe Bridge.

OLLERTON.—Plans for a school to cost £22,000 at Ollerton have been prepared by the Notts Education Committee.

PUTNEY.—The Board of Education have agreed to the proposal for the erection of a Roman Catholic school for 200 children in Clarendon Road, Putney.—A handicraft centre is to be erected by the L.C.C. Education Committee at Huntingfield Road, Putney, at a cost of £1,116.

ROYTON.—Sanction is being sought by the Lancashire Education Committee to borrow £23,700 for the erection of a central school at Royston.

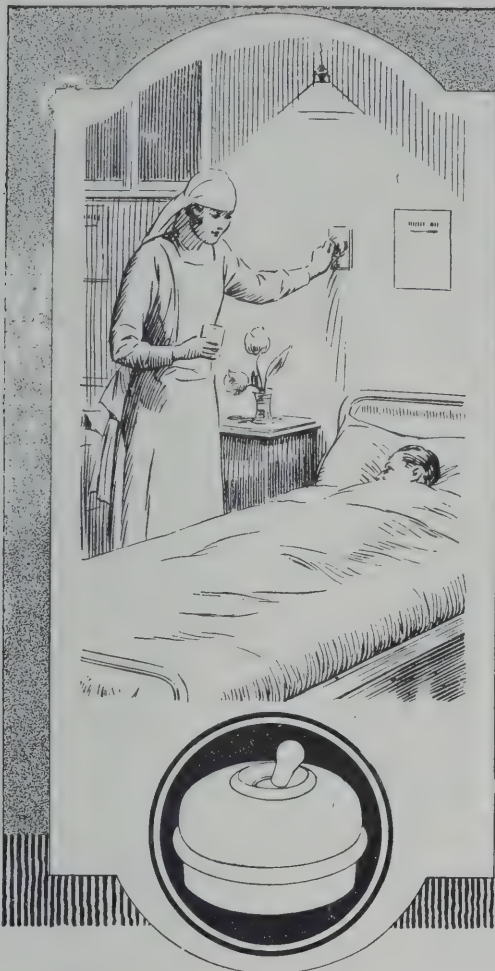
SADDLEWORTH.—The Urban District Council propose the erection of 13 houses at Greenfield, 10 houses at Delph and 5 houses at Denshaw, of the non-parlour type, to the plans prepared by Mr. A. J. Howcroft, architect, of Priory Buildings, Oldham. Tenders are being invited.

WAKEFIELD.—Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Massie & Holdsworth, Architects and Surveyors, of Wood Street, Wakefield, for the erection of 34 houses at Crodton and 16 houses at Crigglestone, and tenders have been accepted from W. J. Kendall & Co., Ltd., of Pudley, Leeds, and D. R. Snowden & Sons, of Barnsley, respectively.

WARRINGTON.—The members of the Golf Club have adopted the plans submitted by Mr. A. Warburton, Architect, of 2 Bold Street, for the erection of the new club house at Appleton. The building is to be three storeys in height, with verandahs, and provides accommodation for 300 members, and is estimated to cost £4,500 to £5,000.

WORKSOP.—The U.D.C. propose to erect 226 houses on sites at Anston Avenue, Gateford Road, Kilton Road and Lincoln Street. The Council are to raise a loan of £35,400 to lend to the Wigan Coal and Iron Co. for the purpose of building houses.

In Lambeth we notice extensive new storage works for the Union Cold Storage Co. in Commercial Road, the company acting as their own builders; B. Goodman, Ltd., for demolition and excavation; and Moreland, Hayne & Co., Ltd., for structural steelwork. Adjoining these premises are new buildings for the Pure Ice Company, Limited, with Dorman, Long & Co. supplying the structural steelwork; and Kleine Patent Fire-Resisting Flooring Syndicate supplying their floors.



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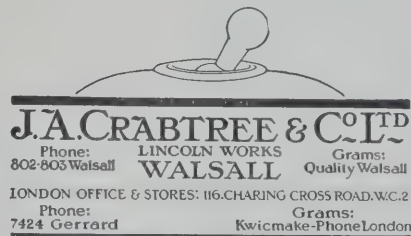
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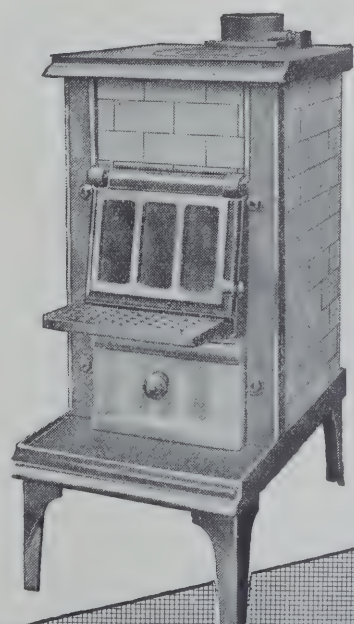
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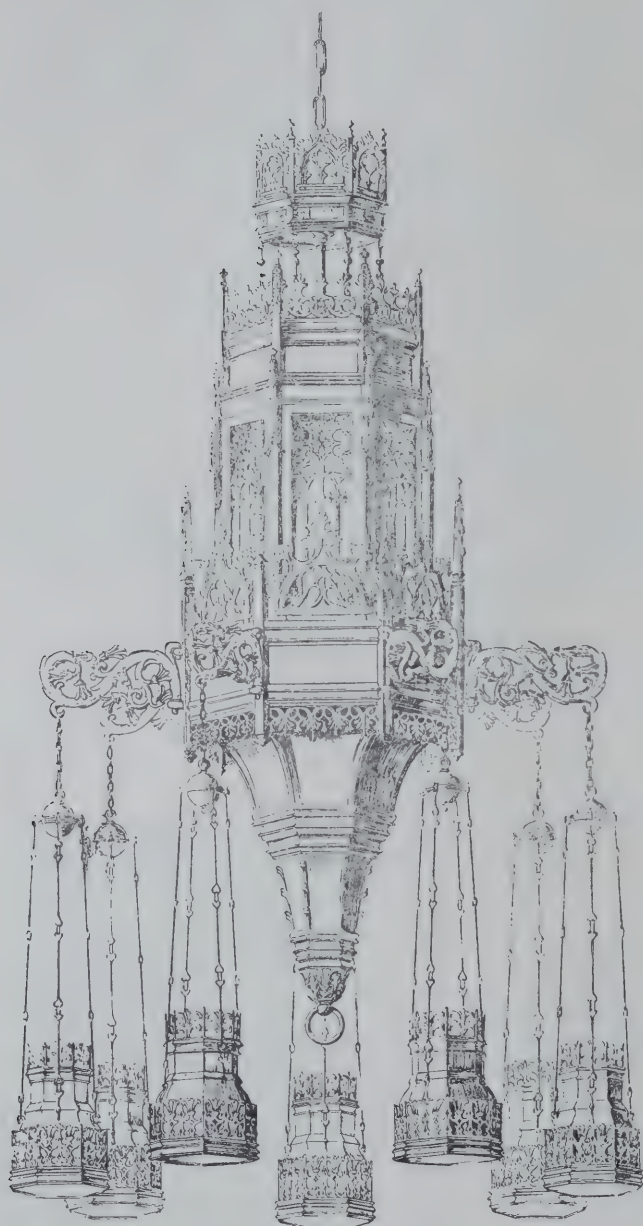


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The Lighting of Liverpool Cathedral.

One of the most interesting examples of church lighting is afforded by the yet uncompleted Liverpool Cathedral. It is twenty years since the building of this mighty fabric was begun. The portion of the Cathedral so far completed and opened comprises the Sanctuary, Chancel, Choir, Transepts, Memorial Chapel and certain passages and corridors. The lighting was first considered as far back as 1914. Various tests were then made in the presence of a committee, who decided that B.T.H. equipment should be used. Nothing, however, was done during the war, and at the conclusion of hostilities further tests and demonstrations were carried out for the benefit of what was practically a new committee. This new committee reaffirmed the decision of the old committee as to the use of B.T.H. equipment and the scheme was proceeded with.



ELECTROLIER, LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL.
SIR GILBERT SCOTT, R.A., Architect.

It should be stated that the great success of the installation is largely due to the co-operation of the several persons and firms concerned. The arrangement of the units was planned by the lighting engineers of the British Thomson-Houston Company, Ltd., in collaboration with Mr. Lester Taylor, the electrical adviser to the committee. All the reflectors and lamps were supplied by the British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd. The architect, Sir Gilbert Scott, R.A., was responsible for the design of the various fittings and cases in which the lighting units are concealed. Not only is the illumination ample, diffused and well distributed—these qualities should be present in any modern lighting scheme—but there is in the lighting of Liverpool Cathedral a complete harmony of effect, an absolute adjustment of means to the end which is very rarely achieved, and is practically impossible of achievement without the assistance of the architect.

The contractors, Messrs. J. Hunter & Co., of Liverpool, are to be congratulated upon their valuable contribution to the final result.

CHANCEL, SANCTUARY AND REREDOS.

These sections are lighted by means of twelve batteries of Mirolux trough reflectors, each battery containing four reflectors and eight Mazda gasfilled lamps. Two of these batteries are attached to each column, the equipment being enclosed in ornamental wood cases carved to harmonise with the surrounding masonry. The opening of the reflectors is screened by slightly-tinted and obscured glass. These units are pointed towards the altar and reredos—that is, away from the congregation, who are thus only able to see the lighting effect and cannot see the sources from which the light proceeds. The altar and reredos are thus thrown into relief, and can, in fact, be seen as well by night as during the day.

TRANSEPTS.

It was not possible to use Mirolux troughs for the lighting of the transepts, as the congregation here faces in two directions. It was, therefore, decided to employ here the more conventional method of lighting by means of electroliers. Two large electroliers are installed in the transepts, each being equipped with seven lanterns. Each lantern contains an X-ray reflector and a 300-watt Mazda gasfilled lamp. The electroliers are made of coinage bronze. They are 10 feet in height, weigh approximately 15 cwt., and are suspended at a height of 35 feet by chains tested to five tons.

CHAPELS.

The chapels are lighted by means of a combination of Mirolux trough reflectors and special lanterns fitted with X-ray reflectors.

PASSAGES, ETC.

Various types of fittings are used in the passages and corridors. In all cases the fittings, whether brackets or pendants, are equipped with lanterns and X-ray reflectors.

In the main body of the Cathedral there are no visible light sources—that is to say, the reflectors and lamps are so arranged that they cannot be seen unless people turn round and deliberately look for them. The light is directed towards the east end of the church. This concealed system of lighting undoubtedly enhances the appearance of the interior. The lamps, which in the ordinary church installation are merely a source of distraction and annoyance to the congregation, are in the B.T.H. system kept high up and out of sight. The congregation sees the effect, and not the lamps. The lighting, instead of tending to obscure the architectural features of the interior, actually reveals and emphasises them. Many thousands of people have visited Liverpool Cathedral since it was opened, and all those who have been there at night have been tremendously impressed by the lighting. Church authorities and others who are interested in questions of church lighting would do well to pay a visit to Liverpool Cathedral in order to see what can be achieved by the intelligent collaboration of engineer and architect.

Restrictions on Tendering.

Several requests having recently been received for advice as to the attitude which should be adopted by an architect when faced with the restriction on tendering which arises from the refusal of contractors to tender in competition with certain "proscribed" firms, the Council of the R.I.B.A. recommend that the architect, when informed by a contractor or firm of contractors that their tender is conditional upon the omission of the names of certain "proscribed" firms from the list of those invited to tender, should convey such information to his clients and act upon the instructions which he receives.

News Regarding Tenders.

The following firms are to be asked by the Metropolitan Water Board to tender for the construction of mains at Putney and Fulham for which estimates of £110,000 have been passed: Messrs. William Press & Son, John Mowlem & Co., Ltd., Whitaker Ellis, Ltd., Wilson, Lovatt & Son, Ltd., Thomas Muirhead & Co., and Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd.

Manchester Corporation Housing Committee recommend the tender of Messrs. Leach & Unsworth of Blackpool, for the erection of 140 houses on the Moston estate.

The Metropolitan Water Board recommend the tender of Messrs. William Press & Son for the construction of an aqueduct from Abbey Road to Clerkenwell at a cost of £78,848 16s. 6d.

CONTENTS.

The Waterloo Bridge Controversy	PAGE 361	An Architectonic Sculptor	PAGE 371
Art Galleries and Exhibitions	363	Lest We Forget	373
Strainers	364	The Choice of an Architect	375
The Architect and His City	367	General News	376

The Waterloo Bridge Controversy.

The more we consider Sir Edwin Lutyens' report on Waterloo Bridge the more we regret that the opportunity of showing the value of an architect's opinion in relation to an important controversy has not been fully utilised.

We as a profession often complain that our opinion is overlooked and slighted in important matters, and frequently try to obtain opportunities which are not accorded to us. Yet here is a question of great importance to which the attention of the public is directed and the architect called in without so much as saying he has carefully gone into the feasibility of underpinning and weighed the obtainable evidence, endorses the opinion of the engineers called in by the County Council on a controversial point about which other engineering experts of standing hold the opposite view.

Now we architects can be expected to have very reliable knowledge of the factors involved in the underpinning of a bridge over a great tidal river, and it is very doubtful whether any architect could, without highly skilled engineering assistance, know the data necessary for calculating the foundations of a bridge over the river, while the elaborate underpinning of an existing structure must be even more complicated in its character; so that the first and greatest of the problems to be solved is one of an engineering character.

Here we are confronted with a conflict of evidence between the views of different men of high qualifications, some of whom have special experience in similar work. It therefore seems that the next step should be to obtain a report from a man of sufficient standing to satisfy everyone concerned, and on the result of such an opinion the real alternatives would be clear.

But though Sir Edwin at once sweeps away all opinion other than that of the London County Council's advisers, who say that entire reconstruction is necessary, the proposal which he favours involves the construction of a new bridge where it will not interfere with the existing one which, he says, must be demolished!

We should like to know if he considers the proposal he recommends as having outstanding merits which should secure its adoption when, in the course of time, the existing bridge will, as he considers, have to be demolished.

In a word, the proposal must satisfy as it will stand where the old bridge is finally demolished, as Sir Edwin considers it must be. Is a very wide bridge of one span with high and long approaches desirable in itself, and would it not necessarily dwarf and be out of keeping with Somerset House and its other surroundings? Its adoption could only be justified if Waterloo Bridge could be permanently repaired and if the old and new bridge taken together would form a satisfactory group.

There is no reason to favour the erection of a bridge of this enormous width of span, for the passage of shipping on the river would be throttled both to east and west by bridges of smaller spans which it is not proposed should be rebuilt.

We are inclined to think that the passage of water-

borne traffic is not an important factor in the case. Such traffic is mainly a little greater or smaller clearance for barges and is surely of relatively small importance.

With regard to vehicular and foot traffic, it is necessary to consider two questions: one, the requirements of that traffic if and when a bridge is built at Charing Cross, and similarly the requirements of the same traffic if no bridge is to be built at Charing Cross.

In other words, to arrive at a right decision it is necessary first to determine whether a new bridge at Charing Cross is or is not necessary. If we do not we may, in the case of Waterloo Bridge, be building a new bridge where none is necessary, and the financial condition of the country and the London taxpayers is not one which renders it wise for them to place themselves in the position of having to pay for two new bridges when one would serve the purpose. Would it not be better and more reasonable to provide a temporary bridge at Charing Cross to better traffic conditions for the time being and to meet difficulties until a permanent bridge at Charing Cross is constructed? When such a bridge was opened it might be feasible to limit the traffic over Waterloo Bridge to foot traffic alone, which, if the old bridge can be underpinned, might reduce the extent of the work required upon it.

Moreover, if Waterloo Bridge must go one design for a bridge which is to be auxiliary to a great Charing Cross Bridge will suffice; if Charing Cross Bridge is not to be built another and a more ambitious design must be adopted.

We therefore come down to the position that we must decide now and not later (a) whether it is possible to underpin Waterloo Bridge; (b) what the traffic requirements will be if a bridge is to be erected at Charing Cross, and what these requirements are if the construction of Charing Cross Bridge is to be postponed *sine die*?

The traffic difficulties of London are too great to be ignored for any purely æsthetic or sentimental advantages, but equally the latter must not be overlooked or disregarded. We respect and are pleased with the interests in the question shown by American architectural societies and other foreign opinion, but the main question is one on which they are not competent to speak. We alone know what is necessary; and just as we are not competent to give an opinion really worth having where traffic conditions of New York are an issue, American architects must forgive us for saying they are not competent to give opinions on similar questions here.

To quote an extreme case. If St. Paul's Cathedral occupied the only possible position where east and west traffic could pass we should have to pull it down, for even Wren's greatest work could not be retained if its continued existence meant the severing of the only possible artery between east and west. Neither could we retain without alteration the most beautiful collection of old buildings in the midst of London if its situation was incompatible with the necessary growth and development of the Metropolis.

But the report submitted by Sir Edwin Lutyens seems to us to serve no useful purpose—it neither points out the factors essential to a wise decision or indicates what preliminary points must be made clear. It is a document which might afford a basis for an amusing discussion at a debating society, and, finally,

as coming from an architect of outstanding ability, is not one which is likely to be of service to his colleagues because it will throw doubt on their ability to give reasonable and sound advice about an important and serious question.

Our Illustrations.

DESIGN FOR A COUNTRY HOUSE. C. WONTNER SMITH, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

MOOR PARK BUILDING COMPETITION, 1925. First Prize Winning Design. P. D. HEPWORTH, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

Moor Park Building Competition, November, 1925.

The first premiated design is by P. D. Hepworth, architect, and Messrs. Crossley & Son are to act as contractors.

The above competition has just been held by Moor Park, Ltd., to find a type of small house suitable for erection on this very fine estate. One of the conditions laid down is that it should be built for a fixed sum, and therefore its planning and internal partition work should be of the simplest, whilst its exterior should be of a character suitable to its surroundings. Attention at the same time was given to convenience of service and the comfort of the maid. The Premiated design by Mr. P. D. Hepworth,

which we illustrate, contains a good size living-room, 23 ft. by 12 ft. 6 in., dining-room, with large bay to catch morning sunshine, and four bedrooms, between 170 and 110 feet area. The kitchen is so arranged that the three main operations are carried out in three recesses, one for washing up, one for cooking, and one for maids' meals and rest. A fitted dresser communicating with the dining-room forms the fourth side.

A small garage is included in the scheme, linked to the house by trellis, the space between forming a screened yard.

Notes and Comments.

The R.I.B.A. Soiree.

The R.I.B.A. Soirée on Friday last was a great success, about 1,500 being present. We are told that the country which has no history is happy, and similarly we may say that meetings for which no set programme has been arranged are often the most successful. The world grows weary of diatribes and appeals to an audience which is frequently more bored than enthusiastic, but all of us are glad to meet our friends and to talk of anything of mutual interest. We hope that the precedent set will be followed in coming years, as we are sure it will do good and afford enjoyment, while busy men will find in such functions opportunities of meeting a number of friends they have not time to look up individually.

The L.C.C. and Waterloo Bridge.

At a meeting of the London County Council many complaints were made of the delay in dealing with the question of Waterloo Bridge, and the Improvements Committee were urged to get on with their work—that of replacing the present bridge by a new structure. Some of the speakers were “tired of architects,” and others dismissed all opposition as being that of “cranks.” But as the L.C.C. had first to formulate their proposals before they could be opposed, and as it took time for the opposers to produce independent technical opinion in support of their objections, a delay, necessarily, has taken place. But the expert opinions quoted are of so strong a character that it seems to us a perfect case has been made out for further delay in dealing with the whole question, and a good case made out for calling in the best authority or authorities to decide on the merits of the contradictory advice given by men who have expert knowledge. After all, Waterloo Bridge is a monument known to the world as commemorating the end of the greatest war in history, a war only second in its scope to that of 1914. Nobody even suggests that it is likely to suddenly collapse. Why, then, is there any reason against delaying matters until the various points raised have been satisfactorily examined and an agreed judgment arrived at? The County Council can readily demolish the bridge, but it is beyond their powers to replace it as it was.

A Sculptor of Fountains.

Modern artists meditating public memorials that are to take the form of a fountain, would do well to study the works of Giovanni da Bologna, that past-master in design and work.

Born at Douai in 1524, he settled in later years at Florence, and there his name of Jean was Italianised, and became famous for his beautiful bronze Mercury, that model of form, lightness and delicate workmanship, poised as it is on tiptoe for a flight. Other statuary in marble includes the fine group in the Loggia dei Lanzi, the “Rape of the Sabines,” all struggle and strength, and an admirable statue of his patron Cosimo Medici.

It is in Florence that one of his fountains, though not his masterpiece, is to be seen, in the middle of a little lake in the Boboli Gardens of the Pitti Palace, an excellent group of “Oceanus and the River-gods.” A huge, flat, very simple basin, resting on a graduated pedestal, rises from the lake, and from this basin springs a shaft with four brackets. On each of these is seated a river-god or Naiad, and the whole is dominated by a colossal figure of the Ocean, proudly standing between the jets of water thrown up by his satellites below. A very effective and sound piece of work.

But the *chef d'œuvre* of Giovanni which gained for him his surname, is to be seen in the city whose name he bears. There, in the midst of the incomparable Piazza del Nettuno, stands the superb fountain which gave the square its name. Designed in the first place by Tommaseo Laurenti of Palermo, modified and carved by the sculptor, the magnificent “Fontana del Nettuno,” the Fountain of Neptune, defies the ravages of time. A unique specimen of Late Renaissance work it was finished in 1566. The basin is octagonal, with steps leading up to it; it is decorated with coats-of-arms and shields, and delicate tablets in bas-relief. In the centre of the basin is placed, four-sided, the support and group that have made the fame of Giovanni da Bologna. Far from being the shaft, as at Florence, the support of this fountain reminds one of Greek or Roman urns, so intensely classical is it in form and decoration, with its pilastered acanthus carvings, its medallions and shields.

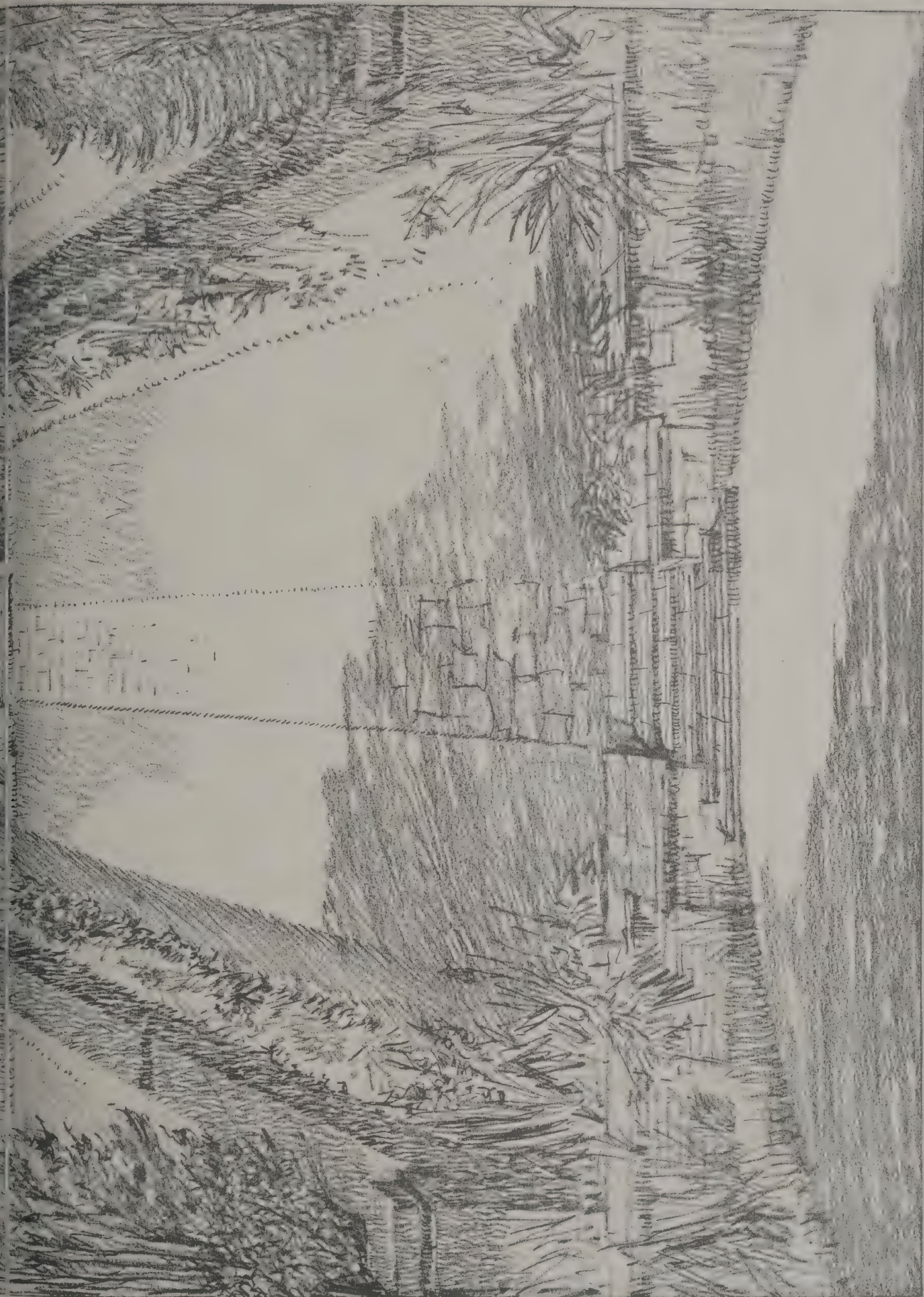
At either corner of its base crouches a mermaid, perfect in form, figure and posture, under an overhanging cornice dripping water. Seated against the top of the urn on the topmost cornice, astride the corners, are the jolliest little cherubs imaginable, while crowning the whole construction, attended by the most frolicsome of dolphins, stands a magnificent figure of Neptune, trident in one hand, the other stretched out in command.

If Bologna had nothing else but this fountain to show visitors interested in sculpture, she would still have earned

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THE ARCHITECT, NOVEMBER 20th, 1925.





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DESIGN FOR COUNTRY HOUSE.

C. WONTNER SMITH, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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GARDEN



ENTRANCE

MBER 20th, 1925.



FRONT



FRONT

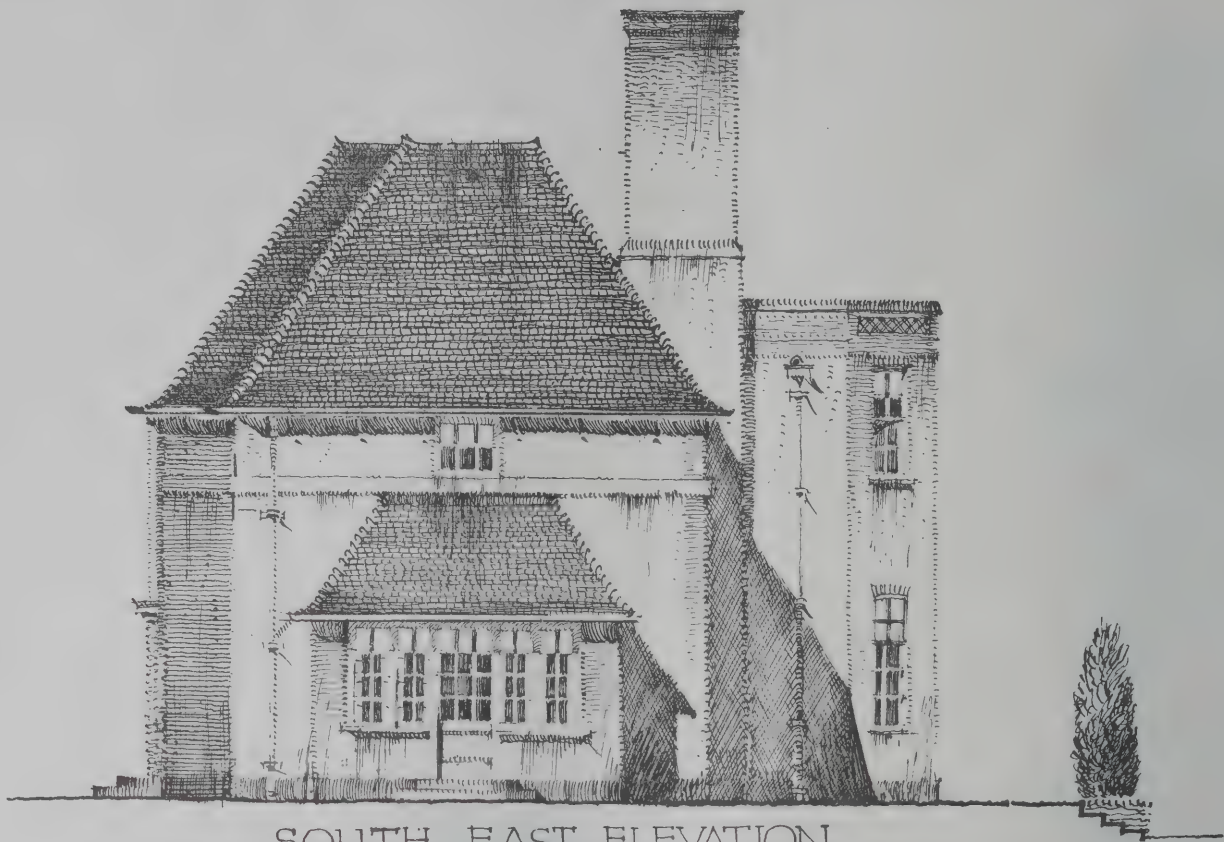
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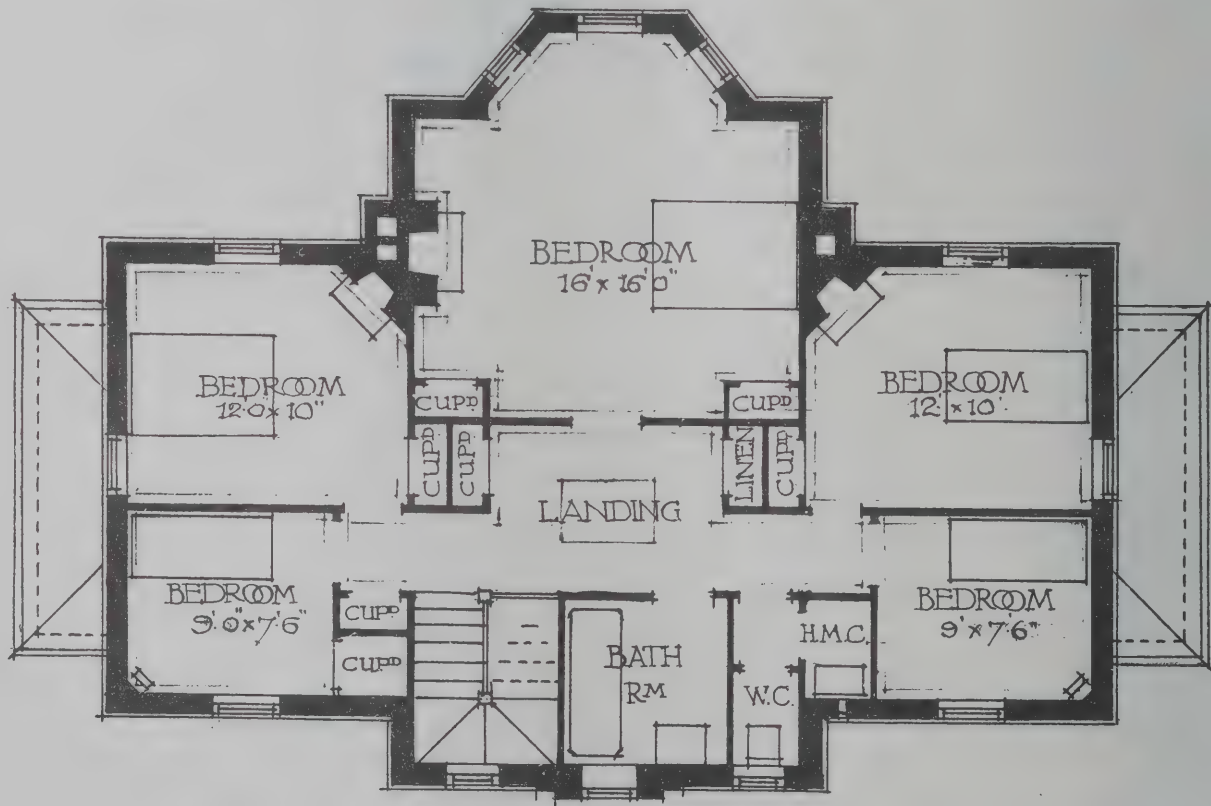
A., ARCHITECT.

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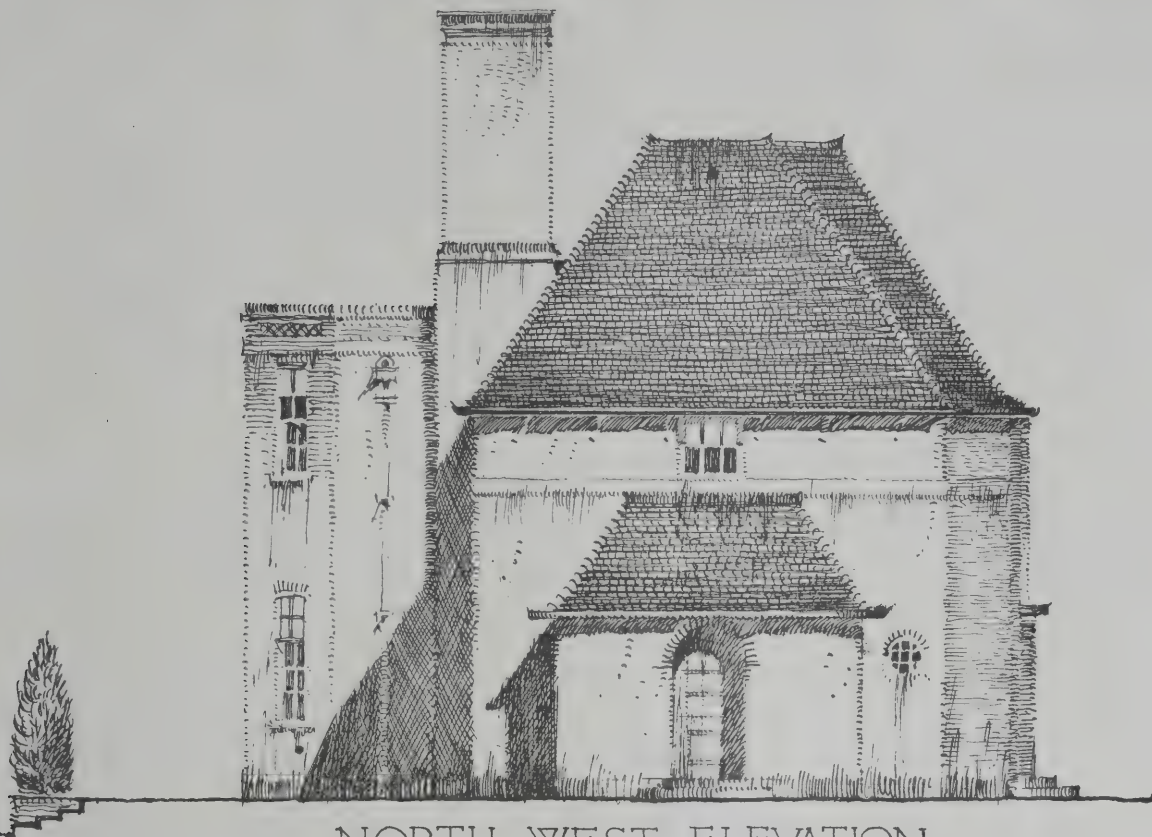
SOUTH EAST ELEVATION



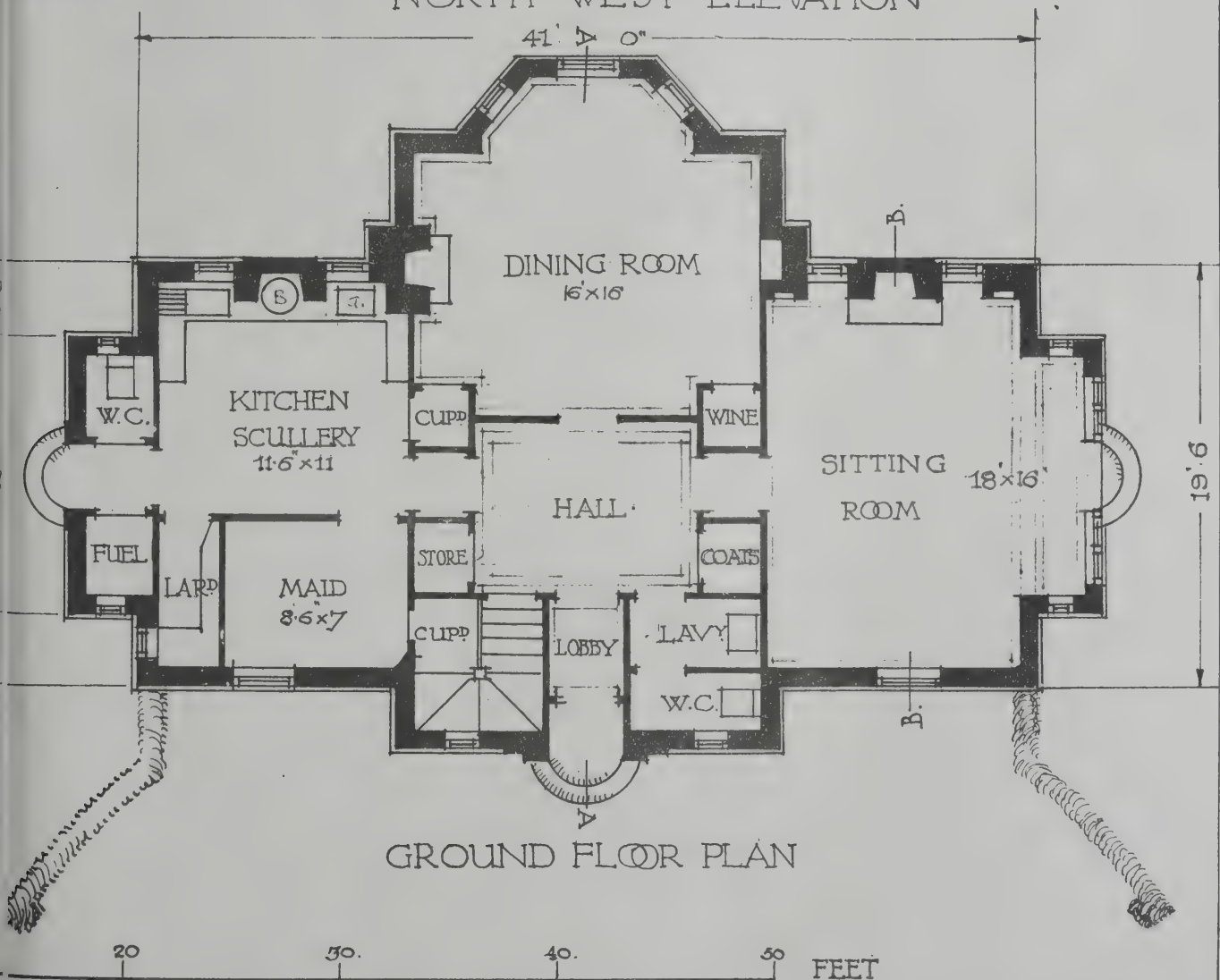
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE OF 10. 5. 0.

EMBER 20th, 1925.



NORTH WEST ELEVATION



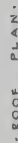
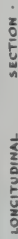
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

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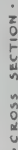
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B.A., ARCHITECT.

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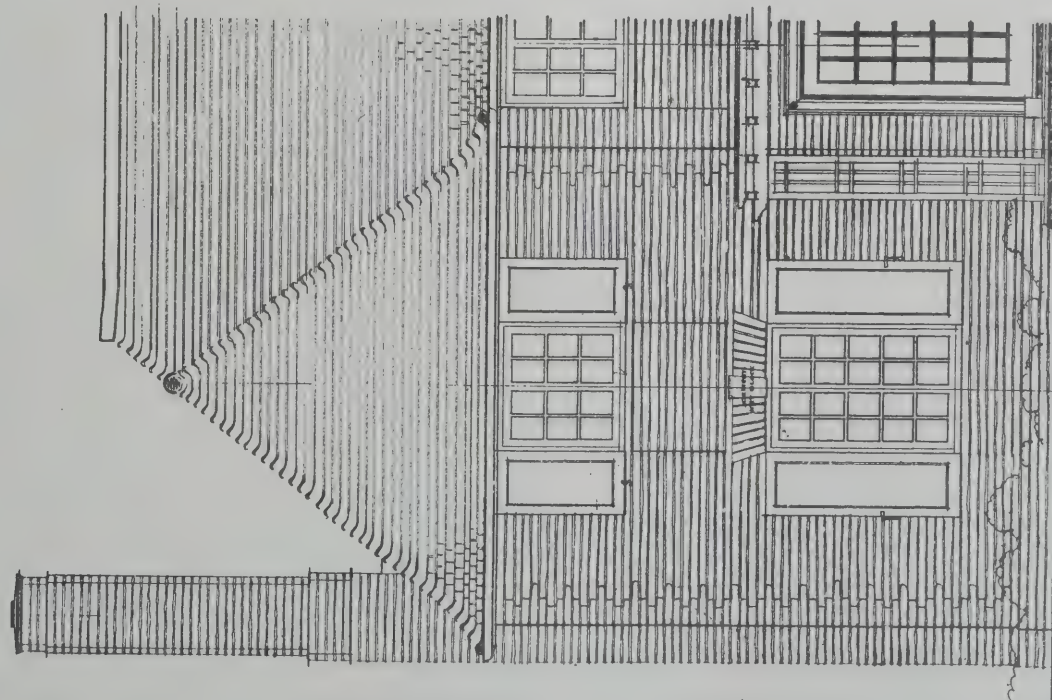
washing machine
 By gas cooker in kitchen.
 Is laid on to all rooms.
 In addition open fire is
 provided by living room and
 bedrooms 1 and 3.
 Hot Water. Is supplied to Hall, Toilet,
 Kitchen and Bathroom by
 independent boiler in recess
 between living room and
 kitchen. Water is pumped
 to lavatory basin, and neatly
 is added to bedrooms 2 and 3.
 Heated by cylinder from independent
 boiler.
 Position provided by three
 windows.



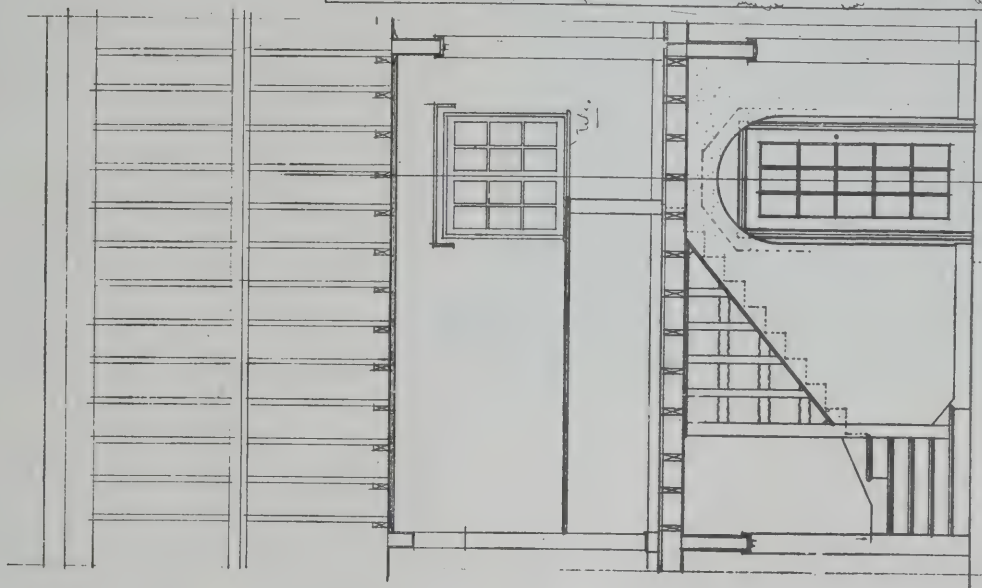
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• DRAWING NO 2 •

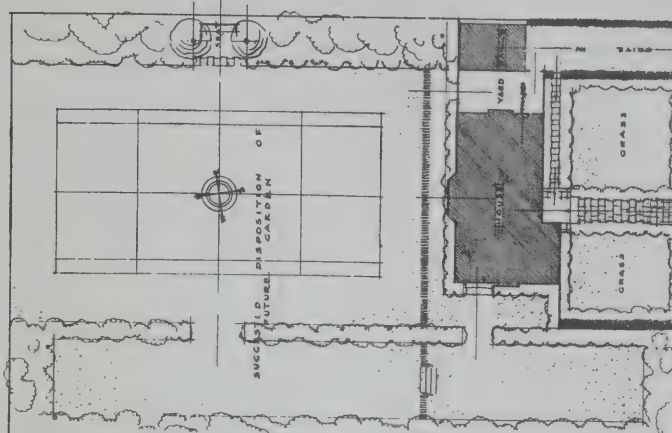
MOOR PARK
BUILDING COMPETITION
1925



PART of FRONT ELEVATION
SCALE OF 1" = 10'



SECTION thru HALL
SCALE OF 1" = 10'



BLOCK PLAN

SCALE OF 1" = 10'

MOOR PARK BUILDING COMPETITION, 1925. FIRST PRIZE WINNING DESIGN.

P. D. HEPWORTH, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT

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her ancient motto, "Bologna Teaches," but seeing how immensely rich the city is in architecture, sculpture and painting, it is astonishing how few people follow the example of the sculptor of fountains, Giovanni da Bologna, and leaving Florence, make a profitable halt at Bologna. The "Fontana del Nettuna" is a splendid creation and a marvel of craftsmanship, and well worth the time necessary to visit it.

Architectural Construction.*

America, which used to be described as the "land of freedom" has earned for itself the title of the "land of system," and it is not even in this surpassed by scientific Germany. Our cousins over the water have resolved in every branch of life to delve into the conditions which make for efficiency, to consider how these conditions can best be taught and acted upon, and the result of these endeavours bears its mark on every branch of learning. American architecture is the outcome of close study and intensive training, and when we meet American architects here we are usually surprised by the extent and thoroughness of their knowledge, gathered, as it must be, from books and occasional visits to Europe given up to intensive study. We in this country, with the wealth of art left by past ages around us, are frequently inclined to be casual in our study of the past. Mr. McKim gave expression to this when he told us on his visit to this country to receive the R.I.B.A. gold medal, that "it seemed ungracious to criticise when he had been almost killed by kindness; but how was it that, living as we did under the shadow of the dome of St. Paul's, English architects had so little feeling for their great traditional work? Those of us who have practised in the colonies or abroad best know how keenly we have felt our former failures to learn, mark and inwardly digest the beauties of architecture in England, beauties passed by even to-day by many of the students in our architectural schools, more intent on the study of the latest methods of rendering or making original study than in "soaking in" the genius of the past by a close and systematic study of old buildings by the time-honoured methods of measuring and sketching.

The volume before us is divided into 12 sections—1, Preliminary Considerations; 2, The Cottage; 3, The Suburban House; 4, Landscape Work; 5, The Country House; 6, The City House; 7, The School; The Church; 9, The Office Building; 10, Additional Details of Construction; 11, Service Equipment; and 12, Building Materials. The book numbers over 1,200 pages, and the method adopted is to take types of buildings illustrated by the architect's working drawings, and to describe step by step the methods of carrying these same buildings into execution. The whole is marked by painstaking thoroughness, and no detail which would be of service to the architect is omitted. The young architect of little experience cannot fail to find in such a volume data and facts which will guard him against making those mistakes to which inexperience is prone.

The specification clauses germane to each class of buildings are given and annotated upon. Naturally in such a work there is much which differs from our practice here, but such differences are after all but partial, and no English student who buys a copy of the book will find he has wasted money, and no one reading it will have cause to think he has wasted time. It is a work we can with confidence recommend to our readers.

*"Architectural Construction," Vol. I.—An analysis of the Design and Construction of American Buildings, based on the actual working drawings of recent examples by Walter C. Voss, S.B., Head of the Architectural Construction Wentworth Institute, Boston, Mass., and Ralph Coolidge Henry, S. M. Architect, Boston, Mass. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. London: Chapman & Hall, Ltd. 1923. £5 net.

SHOTTON.—The Roman Catholic Trustees have agreed to provide a school for about 250 children at Fleming Field, Shotton.

WANDSWORTH Borough Council have accepted the tender £34,842 17s. 3d. of Messrs. Lole & Co. for the reconstruction and extension of the town hall.

Art Galleries and Exhibitions.

At the Alpine Club Gallery, Mill Street, Conduit Street, London, W.1, several artists have combined and are exhibiting together a pleasing, varied and interesting collection. The work of E. L. Lawrenson strikes a decorative note, and, as such, includes some first-rate examples.

Miss Ida Kirkpatrick has a clean and crisp style which will please many; her sister, Miss Ethel Kirkpatrick, seeks to express her artistic talent through the means of pure delicate tints which, when applied to some of the sunny subjects exhibited, are very delightful. The work of Mary A. Sloane, A.R.E., follows, and those interested in pencil drawing will find much to appreciate. Mr. Maurice Clarke is showing some landscapes of merit; the bulk of his exhibits are portraits which convey the expression of truthfulness, though they lack much of the interest that many painters incorporate into this class of painting. Miss Charlotte Lawrenson is exhibiting some good lithographic prints.



DONKEY STEALING CARROTS. By STELLA R. CROFTS.
Executed in Majolica Ware. (Alpine Club Gallery.)

At the Fine Art Society, Ltd., 148 New Bond Street, W.1, Mr. W. Dacres Adams is exhibiting a collection of water-colours of Oxford and its colleges. The artist has paid a very marked respect and regard for the architectural details and demonstrates with his pictures that careful draughtsmanship is no hindrance to artistic effect.

Out of every hundred paintings which contain architectural subjects only a very low percentage illustrate a due regard for the correct rendering of these details. At Walker's Galleries, 118, New Bond Street, W.1, Miss Margaret Linnell is showing a collection of water-colours, illustrating, according to the catalogue, Venice and English gardens. As a colourist we have nothing but unstinted praise for Miss Linnell's work. She has produced pictures of gardens that convey all the beauty and delight that Nature gives; but when architectural details are introduced, Miss Linnell makes the same mistake as do the majority of artists, of not rendering sufficient care to the drawing of these details.

In another room in the same galleries Bessie Wigan (Mrs. Charles Marriott) is exhibiting some seventy-seven pictures. This artist's idea of architecture appears to be even less decided than Miss Linnell's. Blobs of colour without any geometrical character are introduced in a riotous manner that is truly amazing. Many of the pictures would be improved by the application of a sponge—in this way a sense of distance and perspective might be secured for views which at present are all foreground, and consequently flat.

WELLFIELD.—Plans of the Durham County Education Committee for a secondary school at Wellfield have now been approved by the Board of Education.

Strainers.—I.

By Charles G. Harper.

In setting out to write this gossiping article on the subject of "Strainers," it occurred to me that it would be of some advantage to read what the architectural reference-books and dictionaries had to say on the subject. But, strange to say, not in any one of the works of reference I consulted was there anything very much to the point on that head. To me it appears to be a singular omission, because some of the most curious effects, architecturally, are obtaining, in a good many of our ancient and historic edifices by the very necessary additions of strainer-arches. Of course, the subsequent addition of a strainer to any already-completed building is a confession of failure on the part of the original designers and builders; and it might easily have been that the additional works would detract seriously from the beauty of the first conception. But we do actually find that, in general, the mediæval and later gothic architects had so much of resource at their command that, when faced with the problem of a building's collapse or the addition of a strut (which, reduced to its simplest, a strainer really is) they did, in fact, produce and execute designs which, it must needs be allowed, often added not only to the interest, but also to the beauty, of a structure.

Philosophically considered, a buttress, the commonest feature in all the Gothic styles, whether in ecclesiastical or secular buildings, is a strainer, and one which forms an integral part of most designs of the Gothic periods. We all know what Ruskin thought of buttresses. He covered them with all the abuse at his command—and he had a large quantity of that, in unending variety, always in stock. Of course, there was some excuse for his particular standpoint, which was that any building—tower or other—should be so designed and built that it would be capable of standing firmly without what he held to be an excrescence.

Ruskin in holding these views (and we, perhaps, in going to the length of admitting there may be some excuse for his point of observation) thereby by implication condemns Sir Christopher Wren in his design for and execution of St. Paul's Cathedral. We do not actually, in gazing upon his masterpiece of Renaissance design, see his buttresses and strainers, but, as the architectural profession well knows, there is a very forest of them concealed all over the vast building. Flying buttresses are there, in the choir, equally as they are in such Gothic cathedrals as Exeter and Norwich, but they are secreted, and the public knows nothing of them. It is a nice point, whether it is not indeed more honest to display such stays than to tuck them away behind copings and screens and balustrades. The sole consideration against displaying these constructional necessities seems to be that of the problem which would then present itself: how so to design them that they would merge in the general design and not clash. But, in any case, here is the instance of one of the largest buildings in the world, ostensibly standing four-square on its own foundations, without what Ruskin would consider the meretricious, and indeed immoral, support of braces and buttresses; yet, in point of fact, owing its stability for over two centuries to an elaborate system of such safeguards!

Architectural design—no matter to what a pass it has come in our days of steel framing and other aids of the metal trades and of the engineer—is founded on the necessities of construction. It is true that we have freaks like the famous "Leaning Tower of Pisa" that has stood for centuries against all probabilities; but even that, it appears, is at last showing signs of an impending collapse. We have, by the way, a small rival in that at Bristol, where the ancient tower of the Temple Church very obviously leans, and has done so for centuries.

But, whatever the origin of the buttress, or the strainer, in Gothic architecture (and we need not be so disingenuous as to seek to blink the fact that the Normans and later architects introduced the buttress merely as a prop to an insufficiently secure building), certainly the

genius of the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries did succeed in evolving out of the necessity for supporting—if we like to put it so—buildings faulty in construction, something that, so far from being excrescent, was actually an integral part of the spirit and practice of architecture during six centuries.

We have but to revisit our own English cathedrals to say nothing of the greater examples on the Continent, to



EXETER CATHEDRAL FROM THE DUNSFORD ROAD.

observe how beautiful a decorative feature may easily be that variety of the buttress called the "flying buttress," of which perhaps the most spectacular examples in our own country are those which support the clerestory of the choir at Exeter and Norwich. The flying buttress is the useful necessary buttress raised beyond the mere sphere of utility into the region of poetry; and we must needs consider Ruskin to have been lacking in imagination himself not to have appreciated the imagination of that monastic mind which first saw its possibilities, and then carried them into effect.

The flying buttress, we may well consider, is the link between the buttress and the "strainer," which we may take, in a special sense, to indicate an interior buttress, or reliever of strains and stresses. He must needs have been a great engineer and calculator of such stresses and strains who first carried to completion those flying buttresses of Exeter and Norwich Cathedrals, which with such nicely-calculated science have for over six hundred years, with a perfect adjustment to the thrust of the vaulting, upheld those lofty yet light and airy walls. These flying buttresses of those East Anglian and West of England Cathedrals belong to the same period: those at Exeter dating from the reconstruction of the choir, 1292-1310.

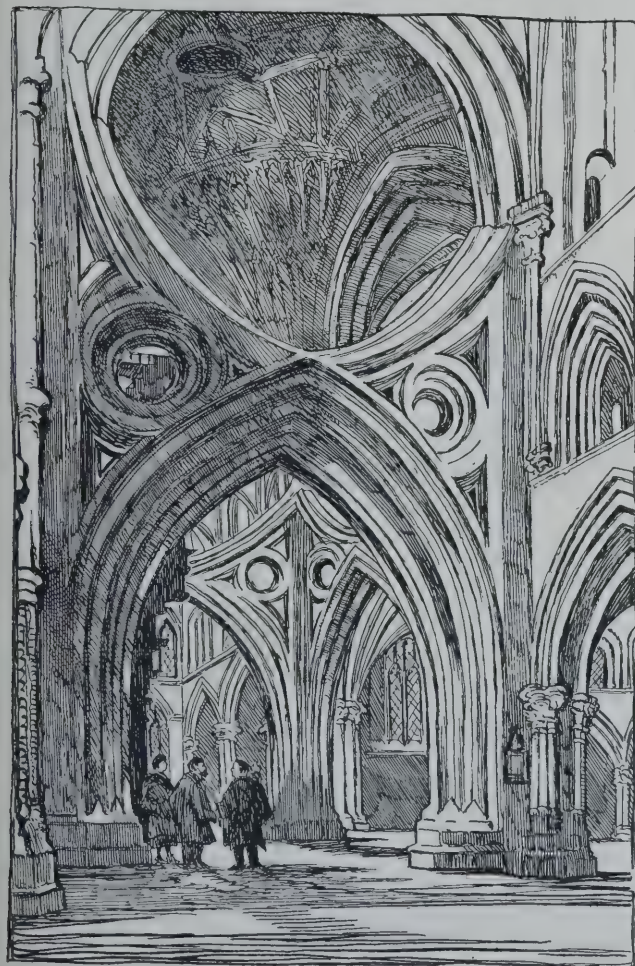
Alike in near and distant views, the choirs of these two cathedrals are rendered the more impressive by their supporting flying buttresses. It is obvious that without their aid those lofty walls must have been the more solid and the windows less large. From the heights of Mousehold Heath, overlooking Norwich, you perceive the cathedral easily dominating everything; and the choir itself and its array of buttresses well to the front. No one, looking upon that scene, would feel in the least inclined to regard those supports as other than an additional beautiful feature



NORWICH CATHEDRAL FROM MOUSEHOLD HEATH.

of the cathedral. The like may well be said of the view of Exeter Cathedral from the Dunsford Road.

Most remarkable among the ancient strainers in England are the celebrated "inverted arches" in Wells Cathedral. They have been often the subject of remark and of extended disquisition; and they form, without doubt, the prime example of mediæval artistry, wedded to sheer practical utility, that we have. Bishop Jocelin, brother of Hugh of Lincoln (1206-1242), created Wells Cathedral, for the most part, as we now see it; but the upper stages of the central tower were the work of a successor. As so often we find in the architectural history of English cathedrals, sub-



"INVERTED ARCHES," WELLS CATHEDRAL.

sidences were not long in revealing themselves—threatening in this case, the destruction of the central tower. The crisis came in 1321, and the Chapter were faced with the expectation of a collapse. To avert this disaster, works were undertaken whose complete success bears witness to this day, so many centuries later, of the mechanical skill of the age. The attitude of modern times towards the middle ages is generally, it is to be feared, one of amused tolerance. Those who lived in those periods are too often regarded as quaint and curious creatures, not to be credited with the knowledge and skill we, the heirs of the ages, have acquired. It is true, indeed, that that era discloses to us what we nowadays would style "jerry-builders." In that category of shame were those who reared Peterborough Cathedral, as the necessary reconstructions of some thirty years ago revealed, when rubble filling so amazed the contractors that they wondered how the fabric could have endured so long. And, to-day, Wren (to revert to him for the purpose of pointing a moral) stands revealed as of the same company. Can we, indeed, absolve him? His rubble filling is in our time costing the authorities of St. Paul's perhaps as much as that of the whole building originally. Of course, there is a case for Wren. He was fighting, the most of his professional life, against the economists, and could not prevail against them. He did what he must, not what he would. The thing raises a nice point of professional honour, which we will not pursue here. Perhaps we shall be just to Wren, as well as to the mediæval builder, whose works early failed and had to be shored, if we style them "optimists." Their own acumen, gained by study and experience, must have told them that their flimsy construction would (or, at the least of it, should) some day bring down their works into utter ruin; but they, with the optimists' fatalist attitude not to be commended by us who now pay heavily for it, persisted. Thus, even when their work was not rotten at the core, they took risks which a modern architect would neither dare nor be permitted. Surely the prime ancient exemplar of this daring must be the unique west front of Peterborough Cathedral, one of the most beautiful conceptions of the Early English period. This loggia—for that, practically, is what this daring west front is—presents three bays, carried on lofty and slender columns, far too slight to carry the gables. This work was completed about 1220. It stood, against all reasonable expectation, for about one hundred and fifty years, when it was found desirable, in 1370, to provide a strainer, if the whole construction were not to fall.

The strainer in this instance, is one that would be suspected as such by very few observers, even although, to those familiar with the various periods of Gothic architec-

ture, the difference in style between the Early English original building and the Perpendicular strut is very marked. It is that porch built in the middle bay for the purpose of giving support to the tall and slender columns which, like the ineffectual legs of some top-heavy giant, were bowing inwards. The actual size of this porch, which is large enough to have a parvise-chamber above it, is considerable, but its actual scale is belittled by that of the soaring building it has helped so admirably to preserve.

Well, then: to revert to Wells Cathedral. The Decorated upper stages of the central tower, built upon the Early English lower tier, soon proved to be too heavy for the four supporting piers. When, in 1338, works had to be undertaken, the triforium walls and windows of the transepts and nave, nearest the crossing, were already much wrenched out of shape, as indeed we may see to this day in their patched and filled-in condition. Nothing more entirely admirable in all the history of architecture surely can be found than the way in which those responsible at Wells solved their problem. We see their work, as perfect as when they left it, and we see the heavy tower it supports to be, probably, safer than any like tower in the land. That is much to say, but it is not more than the truth. And it was done without in the least compromising the beauty of the original design. There are, in fact, those who consider it even to be enhanced by these three gigantic inverted arches. However, that may be—and this is just a matter of individual taste—there can be no question but that these remarkable strainer-arches greatly add to the interest of the interior of Wells Cathedral.

Exactly what these works are like may, after all, better be judged by illustration than by description; but the drawing which here displays the most remarkable grouping of these arches, from the north-east angle of the north transept, does not give the effect which first leaps to the eye of the visitor as he enters at the western end of the nave. That is the more astonishing view, even though it does not convey anything like the complex beauty of the remarkable perspective of arches as seen in the illustration.

Freeman, writing many years ago on Wells Cathedral, styled these arches "ungainly props." Probably none other has had the hardihood to agree. Professor Willis, writing in 1863, did not concern himself with matters of taste, but of fact and description. He says: "The great

piers of the tower are cased and connected by a stone framework, which is placed under the north, south and west tower-arches, but not under the east. This framework consists of a low pointed arch, upon which rests an inverted arch of the same form, so as to produce a figure somewhat resembling a St. Andrew's cross, to use the happy phrase applied by Leland to a similar contrivance introduced for a similar reason (but at a later date) into the central tower arches of Glastonbury." It should be added that this design, perhaps, was prompted by the fact that Wells Cathedral is dedicated to St. Andrew.

The two circular openings provided for each of the three sets of arches show us that the designers of these works were artists as well as engineers. They realised at once that filled-in spandrels would be unpleasing, and that mechanically they were unnecessary. The bold and simple mouldings of the arches, together with the absence of any capitals or set-offs, or anything to break the continuity of flowing line adds greatly to the simple majesty of the effect.

From great works to small affords a piquant change; and we turn to the parish church of Portishead, near Bristol; there to find a small but completely charming strainer. This seems to have been added midway in the fifteenth century. It is situated at the eastern end of the north aisle, and was necessary owing to a threatened collapse of the walls through a subsidence of the soil.

The Public Works, Roads and Transport Congress and Exhibition of 1925, held under the patronage of H.M. The King, and having for its President the Right Hon. Neville Chamberlain, will be held from Thursday, November 19 to Thursday, November 26, at the Royal Agricultural Hall. The subjects to be dealt with are: Sewage and Sludge Disposal; Regional Committees for Water Supply; the use of rivers for domestic supplies; the financial control of water undertakings; Land Settlement in New Zealand; the strengthening and widening of bridges; public lighting by gas; the uses of electricity, and other subjects. The Congress Sessions will be held in the North Gallery.

BROMLEY.—The Corporation have arranged to purchase a site at Downham for the erection of an elementary school.

SOUTHAM.—A central school is to be provided at Southam by the Warwickshire Education Committee at a cost of £20,000 and providing accommodation for 300 scholars.



WEST FRONT, PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.

The Architect and His City.

By Dr. Raymond Unwin, F.R.I.B.A.

MR. PRESIDENT, VISITORS, AND COLLEAGUES.

I have found in that remarkably interesting rectorial address delivered by the Prime Minister recently some confirmation of the feeling which impelled me to adopt to-night's subject; the feeling that there is need to direct attention to the special sphere of art in city building. For in the fairly full description which the Premier gave of the types of men trained in our Universities, the artist found no place, though there is an allusion to the art of speech. This omission, I fear, is only too representative of a British specialisation, which, as regards the sphere of my work at least, I am convinced we carry too far. Consequently in the councils of our modern city builders the voice of the artist is too seldom heard; the value of the advice which he might give is too little understood; and the character of the work accomplished is suffering in consequence.

It would be as easy to criticise our civic authorities for not consulting the artist more frequently as it would to blame artists or architects for failing to qualify themselves fully to undertake housing and town planning work. Such recriminations are seldom profitable. In a democratic country the authorities must reflect the attitude of the citizens; and men will naturally neglect branches of work which they are seldom invited to undertake. Moreover, in this case the default is part of a deeper schism in our society; and it is questionable whether the fullest recognition by each party of the beam which obscures their own vision, and the mere mote from which the other party suffers, would suffice to mend matters. For there has grown up during the progress of modern industrial civilisation an unprecedented degree of misunderstanding and estrangement between two sections of the community endowed with different temperaments and faculties; for simplicity we may call them the practical men and the artists; though it is difficult to use the latter term without calling up a vision of the landscape painter or the maker of pretty trifles, so thoroughly have the artists been squeezed out of their proper place in the main affairs of the community.

For good city building the estrangement between these two types of men is disastrous. I suspect it is equally so in other spheres, and that it is in no small degree responsible for the serious condition of chaos into which our industrial affairs seem to have drifted.

Every observant visitor to America must realise that this condition is causing no less anxiety in that new country, reputed so wealthy, than it is in the older and more war impoverished lands nearer home. It is authoritatively estimated that less than one-third of the families in that rich land have an annual income reaching the 1,700 dollars necessary at their prices to meet what the United States Department of Labour calls "a minimum budget of health and decency." Yet estimates assess the waste of man-power and natural materials in the industry and commerce of that country at figures so high that I hesitate to quote them.

Mr. Hoover, who did so much to feed us during the war, has stated that even the degree of order and planning introduced by the much abused war control, with 20 per cent. of the best man-power withdrawn into the Army, resulted in a 20 per cent. greater volume of commodities being produced. When driven by the acute post-war house famine he investigated the building industry, he discovered that seasonal fluctuation was equivalent to having one-third of the man-power on the industry always unemployed. As a result of his discovery of this waste is being rapidly reduced by better planning of the sequence of work.

Never perhaps was the need for dwellings and the other products of industry greater throughout the world than it is to-day; never probably was there so extensive equipment or such latent power of production; yet how difficult seems the task of applying that immense power to satisfy those urgent needs. Why is this, and why you may well

ask should it be recalled now? The reason is that, like our modern cities with which we are concerned to-night, industrialism has developed haphazard, lacking order, lacking design. Now, in city building these are the very qualities which we know it is the function of man's artistic faculty to contribute.

The temperament called artistic is difficult to define, and frequently misunderstood; it includes, in greater or less degree, the imagination to see visions of what might be, the desire to realise them, and the power to give clear expression to them. It constitutes one of the most practically valuable gifts with which man can be endowed, if according to the degree and character of the endowment its possessors can be made to play their proper part in the human community.

The full faculties needed for creative work in the fine arts are, however, possessed by very few of those who share the temperament. Unfortunately, the fact that there are a few who not only see visions of great beauty, but have the exquisite power of expressing them in so-called works of art, has led to the assumption that these forms of expression are the only ones appropriate for the artist; and that it is the duty of all those who share the endowment, shunning practical affairs, to seek, however imperfectly, to express themselves in one or other of the fine arts. Hence we see hundreds of those who have been blessed with some moderate degree of artistic gifts wasting their lives in the production of second-rate pictures or art fancies! Meanwhile the practical affairs of the community lack the inspiration and design which their imagination if properly trained might well have been adequate to contribute.

The terms artist and practical man represent no complete or scientific division; most men enjoy in some degree and may learn to use the faculties of both; otherwise where would the architect be! Nevertheless, the terms do represent with sufficient accuracy a specialisation of temperament, of faculty, and of methods of work, the understanding of which is necessary for co-operation between the two types of men, as its appreciation is important for the public.

Without attempting exact definition, we associate especially with the artistic temperament or faculty the power to see that which is not there, to call up visions of what might be. An example of method may best illustrate what is meant. The planning of a cottage home is generally thought to be very simple. The ordinary person supposes that the plan is the result of following a few easily learnt rules, coupled with regard for sundry "don'ts"; that a short list of requirements can be made, and that by a system of modification, trial and error, ticking off the points as dealt with, the design can be compiled. These methods have their place no doubt, but it is not thus that real designs emerge. The truth is that the problem, far from being simple, is as complex as the family life which the dwelling is destined to accommodate. Every room should have its appropriate aspect, size, shape and relation to the other parts of the house. Ready inter-communication must be provided without involving sacrifice of space in the building, loss of comfort in the rooms, or waste of time to its future occupants. Each room in turn must have its door, window, fire, or other parts in right relation and arranged to leave suitable spaces for furniture. All this must be kept within strict limits of cost; and in addition to being convenient in use and comfortable to rest in, the building should be pleasing to look upon; which means that its mass must set happily on the site, and its colour harmonise with its surroundings; that the plan shall be one which will roof well and light well, and that the proportions of all the external parts shall so harmonise that the whole design will look well.

Hitherto the work of town planning has suffered for want of clearer understanding, even on the part of those well versed in the subject, of the difference of faculties and methods needed for success. If the practical man has sometimes thought that complete mastery of the science

of the subject would suffice to enable him to practise that which is as much an art as a science, it must be admitted that the artist has at times also imagined that his training and his art have forthwith qualified him to become a planner of towns, forgetting that this particular art is based on an extensive science, which must be at least understood. The artist may, indeed, have trained his imagination and possess the faculty of design; but before he can design a city plan he must master the subject. The knowledge he needs is not merely that of the barrister getting up his case, though he, too, will have many briefs to study; not, on the other hand, is it the complete and scientific knowledge of industry, commerce, land values drainage, road construction, &c., which the economist, the valuer, or the designer must possess; though a general familiarity with all these is required. What the artist specially needs is a sympathetic insight into all the relationships of city life, a realisation of the reactions which take place between the city environment and the human society which it clothes and expresses. He needs, in fact, that particular range of knowledge which will enable his imagination to picture the city as it might be, to see the life of the people going forward in it, to see all the different parts and functions in their true relation. He needs this that he may be able to study his vision effectively and mould it to meet the realised conditions, or modify it to avoid the apprehended difficulties. The kind of knowledge needed is extensive rather than intensive; for there must be maintained a degree of detachment from the details of the problem if the city and the life of the city are to be seen fairly and seen whole. The town designer must prepare his imagination for this work by watching and thinking over the phases of city life; meditating on their comparative manifestations in many towns; entering sympathetically into the needs and limitations, musing all the time on visions of how work might be made more efficient and town life more pleasant.

In every case there is much preparation to be done; thorough knowledge of that which is must proceed and be the basis of useful visions of that which may be. That knowledge we speak of as the survey; in order that it may be adapted to the designer's method, it should be set out as far as possible in graphic form. There will equally be much to be done after the artist has expressed his vision in preparing the design for practical execution. What I urge is that the function of the artist, the stage of design, shall not be overlooked. Let the preparation be as scientific and as complete as may be; when the actual planning stage is reached there is need for the imagination of the trained designer to lay hold of the multitude of conditions, conflicting interests and requirements, and with a vision of the city life always present as a guide, to appraise them at their relative value. The designer will study his site, picture its opportunities for work, for business or for play, and will mould the vision of the ideal city until it satisfies the needs and is itself so harmonised with the natural features of the land that city and site become welded into one conception, a complete design. This, it seems to me, is the special contribution which the artist has to make to city building, he must contribute the vision of what the city might and should be, and translate that vision into the design through which it can be realised.

The practical man or engineer, already versed in all the sciences connected with town planning, if he has the necessary artistic faculties, may cultivate them until he becomes also a master of design and creator of beauty. The artist or architect already trained in design may study the economic and engineering problems and become also a master of the sciences of the subject. Either may cover the whole field of work if he is possessed of all the necessary powers. But it must be recognised that faculties are lavished on few men with such liberality; and that the methods of work are so different that the practise of either may render more difficult success in the other. The detachment from much detail and the free use of imagination which are essential for the designer may well be dangerous for the engineer. The necessary concentration of the constructor on the perfection of his detail and the security of

each stage of his edifice may tend to restrict the freedom of imagination which is the designer's greatest help.

It is the need for the different faculties for which I plead, and because they must mainly be assembled through co-operation I look for a greater measure of mutual appreciation of function and method. The practical man must realise that his work will be worth much more if it is guided by the comprehensive vision, the co-ordinated design. The artist must recognise that his vision to be of service, his design to be practicable, must be conditioned by the limits of what is and what is possible, which the scientist or the engineer may determine. There is little use dreaming of lakes in a land where the water supply available does not equal the evaporation.

I seek to enlist your help in this project of mutual understanding between the artist and the practical man, between the man who sees what might be and the man who knows what is.

As architects we have perhaps a special opportunity to help towards this better understanding; for our work touches both the artistic and the practical. If our buildings occasionally have pinnacles they must always have structural stability. If at times we reach up with the artist to the beauty of the clouds, we are compelled with the practical men to keep our feet firmly planted on mother earth; and the visions which our spirits may gather in those higher regions serve but to help us more fittingly to solve our practical problems. If, as the distinguished Finlander Saarinen recently expressed it, our function is "to create harmony and beauty on a foundation of the practical," we should, through understanding something of the temperaments and experiencing the methods of work of both the artist and the practical man, be in a position to help each to a greater understanding and better appreciation of the other.

Dissatisfaction with the results of a civilisation of quantity and economic pressure are alike forcing the more civilised countries to give greater attention to quality. It is becoming clear, at least, that prosperity will not much longer be attainable by selling large quantities of indifferent products to the more backward peoples. The quantity business is so easy to learn, and they are all rapidly acquiring it.

When the first housing scheme was launched after the war, with a view to overcoming any local inertia, an arrangement for financial assistance was adopted which necessitated close supervision and guidance by the Central Government. Standards of health, accommodation and design were set; and a continuous efforts was made to reach and maintain those standards. In the process, as was perhaps inevitable, the unlimited financial liability of the Central Government at a time of very high prices led to a degree of supervision harassing to local authorities and their architects and tending to undermine their sense of responsibility and diminish their interest and pride in the work.

When the second effort was made in 1923 the reverse arrangement was adopted; the central authority undertook a limited financial obligation only, and laid down but few and general conditions. The margin of financial liability was left with the local authorities, and a degree of freedom from central supervision commensurate with the new position was given them. Their proposals and their estimates of costs are generally approved, but plans of lay-out and of houses are not submitted to the Ministry of Health, except in the case of difficulty as to cost, or other special circumstances. You will see, therefore, that the responsibility for the standard of accommodation, comfort and design of the houses no longer rests on the central authority, but is mainly a local one.

What has been the average result of this change, and what it will be in the future, are matters of no small moment. Much that I see inspires me with hope; in many places excellent work is being done, the greater freedom has been profitably used. I know of cases where recent housing estates have been well laid out and are being covered with houses which in design will bear comparison with our beautiful traditional cottages, and in comfort and sanitation

far excel them; which, moreover, do not exceed the present average prices, proving that good design, though costly in thought and care, need not be expensive in money. But I see also much which falls short of this standard, and no little that inspires apprehension as to what may be happening in some places! Cases have come under notice reproducing many of the worst evils of the nineteenth century industrial town builder. A lay-out devoid of interest or merit, plans inconvenient and uncomfortable, aspect neglected, north living rooms and south larders; and, as might be expected in such cases, elevations consisting of incongruous features unhappily combined.

This ought not to be; it is little better than wilful waste that we should to-day be using our inadequate resources to such ill effect. That we should still be destroying the remaining beauty of our land by development such as described can only be regarded as spendthrift extravagance. And what of the wider field of town and of regional planning? Here, too, I think conditions are favourable for an advance along the lines suggested. It is true that in this case much of the science still remains to be discovered; many of the economic tendencies and practical requirements, many of the methods for reconciling conflicting interests and giving effect to proposals have still to be worked out. Nevertheless, a great deal has been accomplished—309 local authorities are engaged in making town planning schemes; 32 regional committees are co-ordinating the work of wider areas, covering in all nearly 8,000 square miles. On the basis of the science and technique so far evolved plans are being made. Whether that basis has or has not acquired something of final form, it is equally important that the imagination of the artist should play its part in forming these plans. I do not complain that since 1909 we have concentrated our main attention on the practical problems which have to be dealt with, much less desire that the labour on these problems should be relaxed; the method is natural to us as a people, and it is a good method; it is one, moreover, which has been found very helpful to other countries whose natural methods are different. But it is not the whole; and I do not suggest that the time is now ripe when we may with real add economy a little more creative vision, more of the design which leads to order and beauty than we have hitherto attained in our plans. I say this the more confidently because some of the work already carried out is proving that order and design, proportion and relation are not valuable only for their contributions to beauty, but that without them even the practical utilities may break down. The road junction which merely provides sweeping lines for the traffic on plan, when built up may prove confusing to the human mind, for want of such order, such symmetry, such design in the forms of the sites and the groups of the buildings as would explain the junction to the approaching drivers. Some people always imagine that art or design consists in sacrificing important practical considerations for the sake of mere appearance. On the contrary, the ignoring of art, of design, too often means sacrificing the only supremely important considerations to a few petty practical details; as when all that makes a place worth living in is destroyed for the practical advantage of crowding a few more people into it!

No such natural conflict, in fact, exists; the practical and the artistic are two aspects of one purpose, and both are equally necessary to successful attainment; without the other each alike is maimed.

I have already suggested that, as architects, we may contribute to secure co-operation among those who help in city building. But what about the general public; can we do nothing to stimulate in them, and find expression for, that natural desire for beauty of surroundings which has been almost universal since the earliest dawn of civilisation? I suggest that we can; that we each have a special duty to our own city; and that the only influence at once sufficiently widespread and potent is the influence of the home.

It is natural, and it is well, that all young architects should aspire to play a distinguished rôle in their profession,

to design the greater buildings for which monumental character is appropriate. But even that more distinguished work must in the long run depend on the appreciation of the public, and I suggest for your consideration that house building, which, as we have seen far outweighs all other branches of work in volume and in value, also exceeds it in the influence which it exerts on the minds of the people, and in the extent to which it may contribute to or ruin the beauty of cities. That eminence may be reached in this work needs no proof in the presence of our honoured president; that lasting fame may also be found the names of the brothers Adam testify.

The work, too, excels in human interest and in the number of contacts which it establishes with every branch of communal life. If you become really interested in the house you cannot stop there; you will be led to think of its surroundings, of the laying-out of the sites, provision for recreation and the enjoyment of life, preservation of the natural amenities or the creation of new ones. You will thence find yourself involved in wider and wider interests until all the questions of town planning and city building are brought within the sphere of your attention. Ultimately you will reach the goal of the monumental building, but will see it not as a detached project for a competitive design, but as a point of climax in the city plan. Your approach through the long avenue of city life will reveal such buildings in better perspective, and in truer relation to their neighbours. You will realise through that approach as others cannot the background of the city against which all its important and its public buildings stand forth to adorn it and express its activities.

If there is even a measure of truth in my view that this approach to architecture from the dwelling is best for the architect, and that the interest and appreciation of the people can best be stirred in their home, whence it will spread in widening areas until it embraces the whole town, then I suggest that in our architectural training greater emphasis might be laid on this work. Let every student study the life of the home and learn to plan and design the small house thoroughly; let him follow this with some study of the combination of small houses into buildings composed of two, three, four or more dwellings, and the further combining of these larger units both in plan and elevation into more extensive groups, developing by the arrangement architectural relations and unity, in harmony with the contours or other features of the ground. This affords a truly fascinating field of design which few have yet explored, and fewer mastered. From this he will proceed to the development of sites and their relation to the town plan; when in due course he comes to exercise in monumental design he will at least have some idea of their place in the city, and the background against which they should stand. Incidentally, as our schools must turn out many architects whose opportunities for monumental work will be long in coming, and some whose gifts do not qualify them for such work, we shall at least have trained numbers of men better qualified to occupy that almost limitless field of house building and city planning which offers ample scope for men of very varying talents.

On the occasion of the silver wedding of the Managing Director (Mr. E. J. Fox) of the Stanton Company, presentations were made to him and Mrs. Fox by various sections of the company's organisations. The principal officials presented Mr. and Mrs. Fox with a silver tray and coffee set; the office staff and outside officials with a silver fruit service; and the members of the various sections of the Welfare Department with a silver cigar and cigarette box combined.

Boyle's Patent "Air-Pump" ventilators have been applied to Crampmoor School, Romsey, under the direction of Mr. C. W. P. Dyson, District Surveyor, Romsey Rural District Council, Hants.

BRENTWOOD.—Essex C.C. are seeking sanction for a loan of £2,725 for the erection of a superintendent's house at Brentwood Lunatic Asylum.

BLACK NOTLEY.—Essex C.C. are acquiring 25 acres of land in connection with the proposed enlargement of the Black Notley Sanatorium.



PORCH OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, PEBMARSH, ESSEX.
From "English Brickbuilding."

An Architectonic Sculptor.

Einan Jonsson the Iclander.

By KINETON PARKES.



THE HERMIT OF THE ATLANTIC. EINAN JONSSON.



THE KING OF ATLANTES. EINAN JONSSON.

On an upland facing towards the sea at Reykjavik, in Iceland, surrounded by boulders, and in the distance a few houses for companionship, stands a strange-looking building of original architectural form. It is the Einan Jönsson Museum, erected from a design made by Einan himself by a Government which is proud of the fact that it possesses a citizen who is acknowledged as one of the modern world's greatest sculptors. In it the artist has its quarters, and day by day throughout the year, and now that his wander-years are over, he labours producing some of the finest and most original plastic work of our time. The building is a strange one: its design is of vertical shafts separated by windows. It has touches of Inigo Jones and of the American skyscraper, but it is a thing alone, standing solitary and serene, symbolising the silent, steady creation which is taking place within it. It provides ideal conditions for the imaginative artist, who is content to live just for his art and for his country's glory.

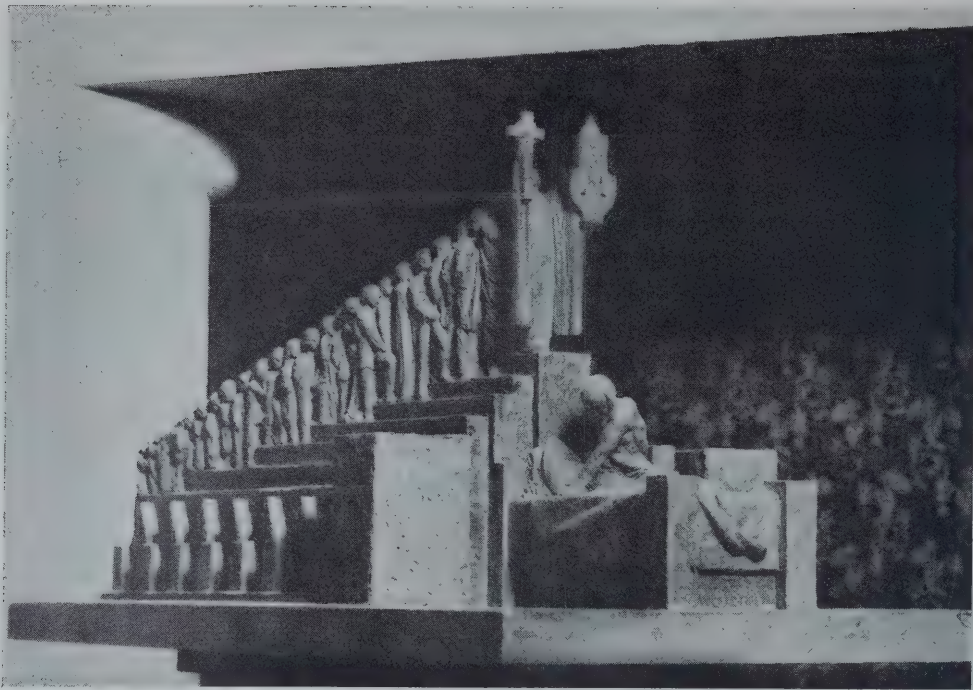
Einan Jönsson is this sort of a patriot. Born in 1874 he shepherded his father's flocks and made drawings, carved in wood and stone, and sang the sagas of Iceland and tried to add to them some of his own composing. The physical

grandeur of his native country was permeating his soul—the mountains, the glaciers, the volcanoes, and the trolls and their offspring filling his mind and enlivening his dreams. Iceland sent the young lad to Copenhagen, where Stephan Sinding was teaching at the Academy, and there the ex-shepherd boy carved his first statue, a Praying Boy, in marble. When it was finished he conceived a dislike for it, and for the antique, and when he went to Rome and studied the traditional art there his dislike for all classical art increased. Very few of Einan's classical studies remain. He is a Scandinavian by birthright in art despite his training; he could never have become a Greek or Roman.

His genius is essentially structural. He is one of the few plastic artists who are architects and sculptors by instinct, whose architecture is sculptural, whose sculpture is architectural. Not because he applies one to the other, not that he makes fitting sculptural ornament for building: he does neither; it is that he conceives architecturally, that his sculpture takes essential structural form. There is something further arises out of this instinct. A massive and convincing symbolism, like the symbolism of the Pyramids, the Sphinx on the stelæ of the Maya civilisation, national, historical, religious—a symbolism of time, too, not to say of eternity.

There is more than a suggestion of Egyptian placidity in the immensely static group of "the King of the Atlantes;" with its pyramidal form and sphinx-like calm, even though the architectural factors as such are but little used. In the design for a Queen Victoria monument as Empress of India they appear in strength, for the whole base is originally, simply, but impressively conceived for the bearing of the great group of the elephant with decorative adjuncts, surmounted by the lion and seated figure of the Queen. The sculptural form-properties are supported by four plastic groups in the round, and below a crowded frieze of figures engirdles the whole base-support which crowns the series of many wide steps.

An even more massively static effect is attained by the rectangular features of the base of "The Poet" memorial, contrasting with and supporting the extraordinary procession of ascending figures behind the hierarch with symbols held high in his hands, above the struggling, agonised figure of the poet beneath, half nude and treated with great naturalistic feeling. This work is a monument to the Icelandic poet, Hallgrímur Pjetarsson. A similar design, but somewhat less symmetrical and satisfying, is adopted for "The Pioneer."



THE POET STALLGRIMM PIETARSON'S MONUMENT. EINAR JONSSON.

In the case of the work called "The Outlaw" the sculptural and architectural factors are separated. The architecture consists of a design of massive cubes and between two colossal ones the sculptural group in the round is imposed. A union of the two elements is again reached, however, in the impressive relief known as "The Hermit of the Atlantic," a strange conception in which a solitary gigantic figure partly emerges from a volcanic peak in mid-ocean, surmounted by a relief of men of all the nations, and flanked by two groups of single figures mounted on bull and buffalo respectively. A further impressive monument is almost wholly sculptural. It is "Evolution," a symbolic group which includes a great figure representing all the forces of the past, with huge arm with clenched fist ineffective against the forces of progress. These are summarised in a noble standing figure with thoughtful face, holding a sphere which supports a cross on which man has willingly sacrificed himself for truth. The upper member of the cross supports two forearms with hands pressed together in prayer and spiritual aspiration. A purely decorative piece represents Einar's restricted contributions to mere architectural adornment: this is the "Birth of Psyche," and is interesting as showing the fine powers of design and composition possessed by the artist, and the pictorial possibilities of his plastic conceptions.

Technically he has great power over his mobile clay, and generally works with great masses of it, building up his compositions with steadiness and surety. They are then cast in plaster and subsequently in bronze. Einar uses no other material for his actual sculptures, neither stone nor wood. His gift is the essential plastic on moulding which suffices him for all the needs to which he dedicates his great talents.

Most of the works of his hands are being made for the museum on which his grateful country has conferred his name. This Einar Jönsson Museum will not, however, be merely a collection of sculptural pieces, but will, by their means, afford a conspectus of the national thought and aspirations of all Icelanders. Einar's works abroad are few, but one of his latest and one of his most architectural is the monument to the memory of Canadian soldiers of Icelandic descent—a striking work, modern in tone, in which elements not usually regarded as sculptural are effectively used: "The Lamp of Sacrifice."

WEST STANLEY.—A site at West Stanley has been selected by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of a mining centre.

Correspondence.

Art School Education.

To the Editor, THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the remarks of your correspondent "Experienced" in this week's issue concerning the above subject. I looked in vain for an issue of yours dated November 4, but could not find one; and when I looked in your issue for November 6 for any comments which would have given rise to his satisfaction I was at a loss to find the comments he, your correspondent, referred to. Perhaps you would be good enough to enlighten me on this point. Perhaps he submitted the letter to the wrong paper. With all due respect to "Experienced" and his unfortunate experience of Art School training, although I admit that he has much to complain of with regard to training given in the Art School, it must be confessed that it is always dangerous to judge Art Schools generally by the trend of one's own personal experience of them alone; and there are one or two remarks to which exception must be made. First of all, he is sanguine enough to expect or hope that the Press will take up the whole matter of Art School training and thrash the matter out. He is not the first in his wish, but if there is a greater enemy to education of any kind it is the daily Press, barring a few exceptions. If any notice is taken of educational policy at all, it ignores the essential point and belabours the quite secondary point of economy, salaries, and pensions, and the cost of education generally to the State. Any appeal for Press publicity would fall on indifferent ears. Further, a student generally attends an Art School with a definite goal or criterion in view, and apparently "Experienced" had no such goal in view and is indignant when he proves an enigma to his instructors at his school. To say that the average Art School seeks to retain its best pupils rather strains at the truth, as in these days of competition the Art School seeks more to place its best pupils in walks of life where they would give publicity to the efficiency of the training they have received. The *real* failure of the Art School is the lack of co-operation with the manufactures and textile industries on the one hand, and, on the other hand, it owes a small part of its disrepute to the finishing student who imagines that by virtue of his training he is in a position to dictate to these potentialities, whereas he is in reality only on the fringe of his subsequent useful knowledge.—Yours faithfully,

"AJAX."

Lest We Forget.*

By Percy L. Marks, F.R.I.

This is *not* an article with which politics are in any way concerned, nor is it sociological. The title is, however, an attractive one; hence its employment, in order to introduce the following words of remembrance and of warning, with reference to matters architectural and technical.

"The good old times" is a phrase often used in praise, but often in disparagement, of bygone days, when people were believed to have spent the greater portion of their time in marking it. And those days were entirely shiftable, curiously enough; in 1830, for example, the mind was carried back to, say, the days of the Gordon Riots or of the first French Revolution; and as each generation became reminiscent, so did the date of the blessed (or despised) period alter from any previous fixed or suggested date.

Let us consider and see, if it is possible to assign an era for the rise and fall of architecture and of good construction. When did these eras start, and when did they end (if, indeed, they, or either of them, have ended)?

Firstly, however, what is architecture? The definition of the word as "the art of well-building" (Wotton) is ideal, but fanciful, and is too restricted. For if this definition be correct, a brick ashpit or a plain range of pigstyes, which might be ideally well built, would be architecture, and good architecture, too; but I for one refuse to adhere to such a view. Let us say, then, that architecture is the art of so building as to gratify the senses on the artistic side, irrespective of the soundness of the construction or the aptness of the expression, and possessing, too, a certain sense of durability and of attachment to the soil.

Now, the above is a frank definition, free from hypocritical pretence or Jesuitical phrasing; but I am aware that there are many who will not approve it. The Pavilion at Brighton, to take one instance, is certainly architectural, but of its fitness of expression little need be said. The cathedrals *en bloc* are certainly architectural, though many of them are structurally unsound, and at the best, they are in but a condition of unstable equilibrium. May we regard the Pyramids as architecture? They are generally thus regarded and properly so; certainly they are both apt in expression and sound in construction.

But it may be granted that a piece of work, in order to be recognised as a piece of architecture, must possess in it something of the nature of direct habitation, whether permanent or only spasmodic; so that mausolea, garden temples and shelters, exhibition pavilions, blocks of stables, etc., are all instances, so long as they are not built of materials which seem to indicate the chances or probability of speedy decay. This clause will exclude from the category of architecture such works as Noah's Ark and the Tabernacle of the Covenant, but not wooden buildings in general on stable foundations and of ornamental appearance, and would thereby include work in such countries as Switzerland, China and Japan, usually regarded as examples of architecture.

I think, too, that we must differentiate between architecture with and without the qualifying prefixed adjective "good," without the qualification, the class lies within widely-extended limits; qualified, we can only include works, which not only aptly express themselves, but are durable to the fair-seeming limits of their materials, that give rise to æsthetic pleasure, and that evince some evidence of intelligent life, either present or past.

However, quitting generalities, let us revert to the question: when did architecture first appear upon this earth? Certainly not with the tent-dwellers or with the troglodytes, or with those, whose idea of habitation was restricted to mud houses "which grew up in a night and perished in a night."

We may probably accept the earliest recorded instance as the Tower of Babel, and we need not indulge in a cheap

essay at wit as to the nature and composition of the mortar. The antediluvian cities, of which the Bible makes mention, probably consisted mainly of mud huts. Perhaps, however, the Tower of Babel is regarded as apocryphal by many people, in which case we must place Egypt as holding the earliest authenticated reference to architecture, and there we may leave the question as to the inception of this art.

When did the era of architecture end? It is uncertain whether it has ever ended. There have been periods of decay, of retrogression, of marking time; if there ever was a period of extinction, it would be in the Dark Ages subsequent to the fall of the Western Roman Empire, when Europe in general was overrun by Barbarian hordes. In England the days of the Protectorate were barren; destruction of art, rather than its development or maintenance was in the ascendant. The nineteenth century here, though not barren and though many fine buildings were erected, was a period of decay, but almost coincident with the advent of a new century there arose the evidences of renewed and healthy life; not merely spasmodic strugglings for artistic vitality, but sustained and successful efforts.

And what about good construction? Here, obviously, we need not consider mere construction, without the prefixed adjective. Once again, it is to Egypt we must look for the earliest assured examples. And once again we may accept it as a fact, that good construction (even as architecture) has never died out, though *it*, too, has had its relapses and its periods of torpor, with recurrent periods of progress.

Regarded, however, from the loftier aspect of individualistic work, the present day will not compare favourably with the construction of former days, and of days not far distant. Let it be granted, that we now living witness some very pronouncedly fine work in the nature of bricklaying, stone carving and plumbing; but, after all it lacks that spirituality which individual character imparts, a character which was a feature in bygone days. For to-day even over handwork there seems to be exercised the mechanicality of control and of rigidity of execution. Yes! machine-like regularity casts the shadow of her wings over modern workmanship; and in view of the slackened interest, which the artisan now takes in his work—in the craving for shorter and ever shorter hours and for higher and ever higher pay—in the Frankenstein tyranny of the Trades Unions over their fellow-unionists and over the public at large (so different from the action of the old Trades Guilds)—in all this and in other ways I see grave cause for apprehending that the buildings of to-day, whilst doubtless structurally as sound as any ever erected, lack (and must continue to lack) the sense of good construction to the extent that that implies soulful work.

Lest we forget! Ah! let us *not* forget the good work of architects and their workmen in the days that have passed—days when the artisan was proud to autograph the work of his hands. In so building, they builded "lordly mansions for their souls"; they were as so many village blacksmiths, whom Longfellow sings:

"Toiling, rejoicing, sorrowing,
Onward through life each goes;
Each morning sees some task begun,
Each evening sees its close.
Something attempted, something done
Has earned the night's repose."

RUGBY.—Warwickshire Education Committee are to prepare a scheme for a central school at Rugby for about 400 children, the estimated cost being £20,000.—The Committee propose the erection of a technical school at Rugby to cost £7,000, but definite arrangements have not yet been made.

NUNEATON.—Warwickshire Education Committee propose the erection of a technical school at Nuneaton at a cost of £5,000, a site already being in possession of the Committee. A second instalment of the scheme will be proceeded with later at a cost of £6,000.

* The views expressed must not be accepted as being endorsed by the Editor.

The Tragic Side of Things.

The Rood Screen.

By CETERA DESUNT.

My young friend Smith is an architect. He is a very good architect. At least, he thinks so. They all do.

I met him first in a Pension at Florence.

He slept in the room next to mine, and I used to hear him get up at five in the morning to go out sketching.

It was in the month of August, and his excuse for going out so early was that external Della Robbias looked most gem-like in a morning light. There was no doubt about his enthusiasm. Had he been a pork butcher or a cheese merchant with such enthusiasm he would have been a millionaire and received a knighthood.

He was a great authority on Rood Screens, and what he did not know about Rood Screens could be written on a threepenny piece.

He told me some awful yarns about his business dealings with rectors and clergymen, and if half he told me is true parsons are certainly as black as they are dressed.

He was invited to lecture on Rood Screens before a Royal Society in London, and being a Scotsman he disagreed with everybody, including an earl, several baronets, knights and other experts who spoke at the meeting.

On his way north he stopped at one of the cathedral towns to see some old glass in one of the large parish churches. He had the roll of drawings with him which he had shown to illustrate his lecture.

The parish church was a very "High Church"—so high that the Vatican could not be much higher.

It had a little stall within the south porch, where reproductions of the glass, books on "How to be Happy though Single," and other pamphlets on religious and ethical matters were on sale.

The rector, a large florid man, came forward as my friend Smith entered the church.

After discussing various features for which the church was noted, Smith casually mentioned that he was an architect, and asked the rector if he would like to see his drawings of Rood Screens.

After looking over the drawings and expressing the greatest admiration, the rector said he had been praying to the Almighty to send him an architect who would be worthy to design a Rood Screen for his church. He had plenty of money, and being a bachelor with no relatives would pay for the work himself. He was a great friend of the Bishop.

Now he felt that his prayer had been answered, and Smith had been sent by Providence.

Smith was delighted and agreed.

The screen was to be of the finest oak, with twenty saints painted upon it. Smith was to design everything and paint the saints with his own hand.

The laborious study of years was at last to be rewarded. Smith felt that at last he had put his foot on the bottom rung of the ladder which would end with a knighthood and election to the R.A.

Smith went home in an ecstatic condition.

Much correspondence followed and everything was going well—the designs being nearly completed—when the rector wrote to say that he had omitted to ask Smith what church he belonged to. Smith wrote back saying that he was a Presbyterian.

In reply the rector sent several religious books and a letter asking Smith to come and stay with him for three weeks, to receive instruction in the true faith and to be confirmed. If he did so the work could be commenced at once. One day I was in Smith's office. He showed me a copy of his reply to the rector.

It finished up with: "I have no intention of forsaking the church of my fathers for material gain."

The rector never wrote again, but Smith heard from a friend later that ultimately the rector designed the Screen himself and had it carried out by local tradesmen.

The Pope may have been rather too broadminded when he allowed Raphael to keep his mistress with him while he worked in the Vatican, but Providence does not approve of artistic Presbyterians.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

NOVEMBER 20, 1875.

THE SEWAGE OF TOWNS.

A meeting of the Council of the Society of Arts has been held, when it was resolved to appoint a standing committee to deal with the subject of the sewage of towns in the manner stated below:—Considering how much the health of towns is affected by the systems adopted for dealing with sewage, and also the numerous great, and many-sided difficulties which at present exist in its treatment throughout the United Kingdom; the imperfect information which exists of the results of the various systems adopted; and the absence of any complete and comprehensive record of facts collected and published officially either by the Local Government Board or by Municipal Corporations, the Council of the Society of Arts have appointed a General Sewage Committee for the purpose of collecting facts and holding a conference yearly, at which the experience gained and the progress made in the past year will be reported and discussed, such conferences to be continued as long as necessary. The committee will consist of the Council and those members of the society who express a desire to serve on it, together with eminent authorities on the subject, not members. The committee will work by sub-committees, each one dealing with a different branch of the subject. At the conference to be held at the house of the Society of Arts, representatives of corporations and boards of health will be invited to attend. Corporations and local boards of health are invited to communicate with the Secretary, and forward to him any suggestions they may think proper.

Obituary.

It is with sincere regret that we announce the death of Mr. Charles F. Chettle, one of the directors of Messrs. Archibald D. Dawnay & Sons, Ltd., the well-known constructional engineers. Mr. Chettle, who was only 45 years of age, was a pupil of the late Mr. Archibald D. Dawnay, and was educated at Ardingley College. He underwent an operation last week, and at first was doing splendidly, but taking a turn for the worse on the Wednesday afternoon, passed away. For many years the deceased had taken an active part in the management of the company's affairs.

Tenders.

Hertfordshire C.C. have accepted the tender £1,837 19s. 4d. of Mr. A. J. Eldridge for the provision of increased accommodation at the police station, King Street, Watford.

Herts Education Committee have accepted the tender £1,045 of Messrs. Shadbolt & Nash, of North Mimms, for the erection of a teacher's house at Little Heath.

The governors of the Barnet Girls' Grammar School have accepted the tender £14,780 of Messrs. R. Ginn & Son, of Hertford, for the provision of additional accommodation at the school.

Warwick C.C. have accepted the tender £1,754 19s. of Messrs. Meigh & Green for the erection of two police houses at Princes Street, Nuneaton.

Sheffield Corporation Water Committee have accepted the tender £17,300 of the Paterson Engineering Co., Ltd., for the installation of pressure filters at Rivelin.

Sheffield Corporation Water Committee have accepted the tender £22,589 of Messrs. John E. Nadin & Sons, Ltd., for laying a new main from Moonshine Tank to the Broomhill pumping station of the Dearne Valley Water Board.

Sheffield Corporation Housing Committee have accepted the following tenders for the erection of further houses on the Manor estate—Messrs. S. Higon & Sons, 16 at £6,623 10s. 6d. Messrs. W. Marlow & Sons, Ltd., 37 at £15,291. Messrs. A. Morris, Ltd., 25 at £10,500. Messrs. Melling Bros., Ltd., 26 at £11,223 10s. 10d. Mr. G. M. Payling, 10 at £4,455. Messrs. J. Laver & Sons, 49 at £21,060. Building and Engineering Contracts, Ltd., 3 at £1,320.

Portsmouth Education Committee have accepted the tender £33,812 of Mr. S. Salter for the erection of an elementary school at Moon Road.

For the erection of new primary school at South Teddington, for the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect. The following tenders received:—Maddison, W. J., Ltd., Minorics, E., £21,051; Lacey, W., Hounslow, £20,955; Godson, G., & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, £20,719; Dorey & Co., Ltd., Brentford, £20,649; Bollom, G., & Sons, Ltd., Acton, £20,649; Gaze, W. H., & Sons, Ltd., Kingston, £20,473; Ferris Bros., Acton, £20,324; Knight, H., & Son, Tottenham, £20,155; Lawrence, W., & Son, Ltd., London, E.C., £20,070; Lovell, Y. J., & Son, Gerrards Cross, £19,856; Monk, A., Lower Edmonton, £19,778; Challis, G., Brentford, *£19,557.

* Recommended for acceptance.

The Choice of an Architect.

By C. H. Blackall, F.A.I.A.

From "*The American Architect*."

A great deal has been said and written regarding the extreme desirability of choice on the part of the client when it comes to selecting an architect. There is one consideration, however, of which we hear very little. There are, we will say, 5,000 or 6,000 architects in this country. Very few of these architects do any more than a slight proportion of their own work, and most of the actual drawing and a great deal of the designing is done by employees, or associates, so that against the body of 5,000 or 6,000 architects, there are presumably 20,000 or 30,000 draughtsmen, all of whom are in the market. The time was not very long ago when every draughtsman was supposed to be a potential architect, and it is still the custom to consider that the draughtsmen will ultimately develop into architects with offices of their own, but as a matter of fact there has developed a very considerable stability of occupation, the great majority of draughtsmen not being likely ever to become architects, but will continue in the subordinate position throughout their lives. From this condition has arisen another, that opportunities for growth and development in the profession do not seem to weigh as much with many draughtsmen as they did in a period not very remote, and the amount of money compensation which a draughtsman receives each week in many cases outweighs any thought of architectural benefits which might accrue to him from association with a man of ability and talent. Also the field of architecture has been invaded to a very considerable extent by corporations, more or less engineering in their nature, who have established architectural departments as a part of their work and administer such departments wholly on a business basis, paying prices for draughtsmen's services which are higher than architects can pay, and establishing standards which are not always such as the profession would wish to admit. The fact that the engineers and the corporations very frequently charge up all their expenses to their clients, adding a fee for themselves, not necessarily a percentage, makes it very easy for them to pay very high prices for draughtsmen, and so lure into their ranks the men who might otherwise develop into very efficient helpers, if not partners, for the architects. This is a condition which, of course, we cannot alter by any regrets, and as a matter of fact the ingress of the architect into the domain of the engineer has been even more pronounced than that of the engineers into our pastures, so that we really have very little to complain of; but there is a principle which is more or less overlooked and which is worthy of pretty careful consideration by the draughtsmen themselves. The temptation to accept the highest bidder when selling one's services is a perfectly natural one and implies no lack of ideals on the part of the one who is so bid for, but though fundamentally we are justified in assuming that every draughtsman, even though he remains such, wants to acquire training which will fit him to be an architect, and there is no argument on the fact that the more he imbibes the true spirit of architecture, the greater his happiness in the profession will be and the greater his worth. Consequently it would seem fair to sound a little warning for our young men who are starting out as draughtsmen to urge them to exercise more care and more discretion in selecting the architect with whom they shall associate themselves. It is seriously to be doubted whether the high salaries that the corporations would pay to its draughtsmen would be a fair offset for the lack of personal interest in the work and the development of real creative architectural work, for the difference between the engineer and an architect very usually lies in the fact that the one does things and the other thinks them out, that the one is concerned with an exact solution and the other seeks an ideal, that the one deals with figures and facts and the other deals with the imagination and the creative thought. So that while it is perfectly possible for a draughtsman to learn a good deal from our engineering friends, what they get is not architecture so much as business training, very excellent in itself, but a very poor substitute for creative art.

It would then seem that the young man who really wants to conquer in his profession, to attain the control of the faculties which make for creative design, should first of all ask not what wages he can secure, but what kind of man, what sort of personality would appeal to him most and enable him to grow in the most advantageous manner. This does not necessarily mean the architect who has the largest amount of work, for very often some of our best work is done by architects with very limited practice, but it does mean that the draughtsman in seeking his architectural employer should distinctly seek for the very best and associate himself with artistic growth rather than mere business efficiency. As a matter of fact, the business of architecture, while of a great deal of importance to the architect himself, enters very little into the development of the draughtsman. The point is, if a man is to be a draughtsman, he ought to try to be the best draughtsman his powers will enable him to become, and to do that he ought to seek the very best environment and to be where he can imbibe with his daily work something a great deal more in artistic and creative worth than a mere salary.

This is all very easy to say, but it is readily appreciated how hard it is for a beginner, perhaps just out of college, to know what to look for, and perhaps it can be made a little more available by giving it a personal turn. If I were a young man seeking a position as a draughtsman, I would first of all look for an architect with imagination, who can dream dreams and make them realities in stone and brick. Next, I would associate myself if possible with a man who is a draughtsman, who can interpret his own ideas with pen and pencil and put those ideas in tangible shape. Preferably I would associate myself with a young man who had started rather recently in business. The older firms are apt to be more or less conservative and rooted, and I would feel that the inspiration of the young man would offset the experience of the older one.

Of course, it goes without saying that I would prefer a man who is innately a gentleman, who had a background of culture and who had received a liberal as well as an architectural education, for that kind of man is more apt to be able intelligently to impart his ideas, though culture is not necessarily an appanage of architectural ability. There are those who have a feeling that a rough-neck can design as well as a gentleman and that the free and easy, offhand Bohemian atmosphere is more conducive to high art than the atmosphere of culture and refinement. I do not think so. If I were selecting an architect, I would avoid the rough-necks and play with gentlemen, and especially I would try and find a man of real character. That counts a great deal, especially if a young man expects to learn from his employer. Furthermore, I should give preference to a man who not only has a good architectural library, but who uses it in his daily work and whose library is not tucked away under lock and key, but put always at the disposal of the younger man.

Then I should consider very carefully the character of those who would probably be in the office with me, for, after all, the draughtsmen learn quite as much from each other as they do from the boss, and I should want to pick my associates very much as I would pick the man to whom I would look for my chief inspiration. And least important of all would be the amount of money I would receive. A draughtsman is seldom underpaid nowadays. Many of them are possibly overpaid and I would feel if I got the real meat of the profession from the employer and my associates, it would matter very little what my relative salary might be.

This point of view is not mere altruism, but all these qualities go to make up the kind of man from whom a young draughtsman will be most apt to learn and learn the things which will profit him, and if there were more care shown by the younger men in picking out their associates, everyone would be the gainer thereby. At present there is a dearth of draughtsmen.

General News.

ASH GREEN.—A central school for 500 to cost £30,000 is to be provided by the Warwickshire Education Committee at Exhall, Ash Green.

ATHERSTONE.—Warwickshire Education Committee are shortly to prepare a scheme for a new central school at Atherstone.

BARNES.—Messrs. Rosevears have prepared a revised scheme for the development of the Clare Lawn estate.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Lonsdale Road, for Mr. E. A. Broughton; 5 garages, Sheen Lane, for Richmond Park Estates, Ltd.; 5 shops, Lower Richmond Road, for Mr. R. B. Rowell, club room, Elm Bank Gardens, for Mr. R. B. Rowell, for Girl Guides.

BEVINGDON.—Herts Education Committee have decided to invite tenders for the erection of an elementary school at Bevingdon for about 200 children, the estimated cost being £6,500.

BILLERICAY.—Essex Education Committee have prepared revised plans for the provision of increased accommodation at the Great Burstead elementary school, Billericay, at a cost of £5,190.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—Essex Education Committee have acquired a site at York Road, Brightlingsea, for the erection of a special subjects centre.

BURGESS HILL.—The U.D.C. have decided to erect 37 non-parlour houses on a site in Norman Road at a cost of about £450 per house.

CHICHESTER.—Corporation have accepted the tender £20,680 of Messrs. E. & A. Springs for the erection of 44 houses in Lewis Road.

CHICHESTER.—West Sussex Education Committee have instructed the architect to prepare plans for a secondary school for 230 boys at Chichester.—The Corporation have under consideration a proposal for the erection of one hundred houses during the next 12 months.—The provision of a new fire engine house is under consideration.

CONSETT.—Durham County Education Committee have decided to erect an elementary school for 350 children at the Grove estate, Consett.

DAGENHAM.—Essex Education Committee have authorised the County architect to prepare plans for another school on the Dagenham housing estate, with accommodation for 1,050 pupils and at an estimated cost of £29,000.

DOWNHAM.—The Church of England authorities are to purchase a site on the Downham housing estate for the erection of a church.

DUNCHURCH.—The managers of Dunchurch Boys' School Warwickshire, are considering the erection of a new school, in which case the county education committee will use the old buildings as a central school.

EASINGTON.—Plans for an elementary school at Easington Lane have been prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

FISHBURN.—The Board of Education Committee have approved the provision by the Durham County Education Committee of a new school at Fishburn for 200 senior scholars, and plans are now in preparation.

HADLEIGH.—Essex Education Committee have arranged to further enlarge the elementary school at Hadleigh, the cost being estimated at £3,590.

HAROLD WOOD.—Instead of spending large sums on the enlargement of the Harold Court Sanatorium the Health Committee of the Essex C.C. propose to secure a site for the erection of new buildings.

HERTFORD.—Herts Education Committee have passed plans prepared by Mr. J. W. Fisher, of Wellingborough, for the proposed new grammar school at Hertford to accommodate about 312 boys and to cost about £40,000.

HERTFORDSHIRE.—Herts C.C. have authorised the preparation of a scheme, in conjunction with the local councils and joint hospital boards, for the provision of hospital accommodation for cases of puerperal fever.

HORTON.—A scheme has been prepared by the L.C.C. for the erection on the Horton asylum estate of a hostel for the nursing staff at a cost of £23,000.

HINDHEAD.—At the Parochial Church Council it was reported that the architect agreed with the decision to complete the church as originally planned, but with a transept instead of a tower, the cost being £5,320.

HULL.—Mr. F. Bilton has offered to undertake the erection of a further 200 to 500 houses on the Winget system for the Corporation at £475 per house for 200 and £473 for 500, subject to the same wage clause as in his present contract for 200 houses. The matter is being considered by the Housing Committee.—The City Architect has been authorised to negotiate with Messrs. A. E. Tanner & Co., who have put forward a proposition regarding

the erection of houses on the triangular system.—The Housing Committee have approved the plans forwarded by the contractors for the erection of 200 houses on the East Hull site on the Wild system.—The City Architect is to prepare plans for enlarging the chapel at the crematorium.—Plans are to be prepared for a refreshment pavilion in East Park. The provision of a mental clinic is being considered by the Hospitals Committee.—Plans have been prepared for the second portion of the Francis Askew School.—The Education Committee have approved plans for the erection of an elementary school for 250 children in North Hull.—In connection with the new infectious diseases hospital at Cottingham, it has been decided that first accommodation shall be for a 26 bed pavilion and a 10 bed cubicle block and that the administrative buildings be based of a hospital of 374 patient beds.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £12,000 for the provision of workshops for the works committee in Ringrose Street.—Plans passed: 18 houses and shop, Hessle Road, for Messrs. J. & S. Williamson; 24 houses, Victoria Avenue, for Messrs. H. Johnson & Sons; 13 houses, Westbourne Avenue, for Mr. H. Sanderson.

ILKESTON.—The Borough Engineer is to obtain tenders for the erection of 68 houses on the southern site and also for the necessary roadmaking.—The Education Committee are considering the provision of further school accommodation in the southern part of the town and the provision of another domestic science centre.

JARROW.—Plans have been prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an electrical laboratory at Jarrow secondary school.

KERESLEY.—Warwick Education Committee, who are now building a school at Keresley, have decided to erect another for 150 infants in view of housing developments.

LAINDON.—Essex Education Committee have approved plans for the erection of an elementary school at Laindon to accommodate 270 children at an estimated cost of £8,340.

MANCHESTER.—The Corporation have obtained sanction to borrow £10,000 for the extension of the city abattoirs.—The Unemployment Grants Committee have promised a grant towards the scheme for the construction of tramways along Kingsway and Moseley Road.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—The managers of the St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School, Marsh Street, Middlesbrough, have decided to enlarge the school by about 320 places.

MORETON.—Cheshire Educative Committee have obtained sanction for a loan of £14,000 for the erection of a school at Moreton.

NETTLESWORTH.—Plans are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Nettleworth.

NORTHAMPTON.—Plans have been approved for district slipper baths to be erected at a cost of £4,500 at Miller's Meadow.—The Borough Engineer is to prepare plans for 60 houses on the Abingdon estate and road and sewer works are to be carried out at a cost of about £3,000.—The Premier Accumulator Co., Ltd., are acquiring land in Cattle Market Road for the extension of their premises.—Messrs. A. Glenn & Sons are about to develop the Weston Favell estate.—Plans passed: 20 houses, Kettering Road and Boughton Green Road, for Messrs. A. L. & H. W. Chown; 4 houses, Seabys Road, for Messrs. A. P. Hawtin & Sons, Ltd.; alterations and additions, Cherry Tree Inn, Wellingborough Road, for Messrs. P. Phipps & Co., Ltd.; 14 houses, Park Avenue North, for Messrs. S. G. Sale & Co.; extension to cabinet works, Scarletwell Street, for Mr. R. Hamp; additions, North Western Hotel, Marefair, for Messrs. P. Phipps & Co., Ltd.; factory, Dunster Road, for Mr. James Collier; 4 houses, Hawthorn Road, for Mr. C. H. Rainbow.

SHEFFIELD.—The Corporation are to invite applications for, the appointment of a city architect at a salary of £1,000 a year. Sites at Primrose Hill, at Intake and at Bristol Road have been acquired for the erection of transformer stations.—Plans passed: 28 houses, Patmore Street, for Mr. Thomas Pye; 8 houses, Windmill Lane, for Mr. Thomas Pye; 4 houses, Tullibardine Road, for Messrs. W. Malthouse, Ltd.; 6 houses, Dobcroft Road, for Mr. E. Sivil; 6 houses, Greystones Road, for Mr. R. Watson; 6 houses, Parkhead Crescent, for Mr. A. J. Bolton; 7 houses, Grove Road, for Mr. R. Bottomley; 9 houses, Chorley Drive, for Mr. J. W. Sivil; 6 houses, High Storrs Road, for Mr. R. Watson; 6 houses, Bents Road, for Messrs. Smith & Hawley; 4 houses, Chesterfield Road, for Mr. C. H. Leadbeater; 6 houses, Doberoff Road, for Messrs. Smith & Hawley; 4 houses, Sandy, gare Road, for Messrs. J. Moss, Ltd.; 4 houses, Moonshine Lane, for Mrs. M. D. Wilson; 6 houses, Gisborne Road, for Mr. A. J. Belton; 8 houses, off Rundle Road, for Mr. W. Ramsay.



GROUND RENTS in Regent Street are high. Modern buildings for modern shops demand a considerable monetary outlay. In Regent Street it was imperative for the building owner to "keep trading" as long as possible before re-construction and to begin trading again at the earliest possible moment. Every day that business was suspended meant a day of actual loss. To-day keen traders open the ground floor to shoppers at the very moment the lower portion of the building is sufficiently completed, leaving the upper

floors to be finished off internally while the ground floor is in occupation. Three of the most prominent of the new Regent Street shops are illustrated on this page. The Dickins & Jones building was among the first of the big shops to be completed. Liberty's, with its highly decorative front, has been but lately erected. The Swan & Edgar building, on its unique Circus site, is as yet only built in part. In each of this trio of truly modern buildings occupation and trading commenced long before even the roof was in place. In each case Messrs. Higgs & Hill, the contractors for all three of the buildings illustrated, water-proofed the second floor with a "Colemanoid" concrete rendering. By this method the ground floor was kept absolutely water-tight until the buildings could be roofed in. Concrete roofs rendered dependably water-proof and hardening quickly, becoming floors as each story rises in turn, are modern aids to modern building. They are also an asset to the finished edifice. A "Colemanoid" exterior concrete rendering protects the back wall of the Dickins & Jones building.



Damp-proof vaults under one of the Liberty buildings were made water-tight with "Colemanoid." Write to me at Regent House, Regent Street, W.1, for "Colemanoid" specifications.

A floor-topping one inch in thickness is made water-proof and wear-proof by the addition of liquid "Colemanoid" to the gauging water—a foolproof and inexpensive process. The "Colemanoid" adds but a nominal amount to the moderate cost of the concrete rendering. The benefit obtained has a value worth many times the expense involved, but most valuable of all is the fact that the use of "Colemanoid" as above described makes it possible for the shopkeeper to attend to the needs of his customers on the ground floor while the building is still in course of construction above.



Frederic Coleman

Building Progress.

Though the glories of the British Empire Exhibition are now of the past, yet Wembley itself shows continuous signs of development, both commercially and domestically. The Wembley Hill Garden Suburb is growing rapidly from the designs of the architect, Mr. W. Sydnie Dakers, L.R.I.B.A.; the builders throughout are Callow & Wright; a few shops are included, but mostly the estate is receiving four types of houses; over the shops are two storeys of flats; reinforcement, where required, is being supplied by Johnson's R.C. Engineering Co., Ltd.; Lawford & Sons, for Portland cement; "Caroba" fireclay grate interiors are used, and "Golf" and "New Electra" w.c. apparatus. A block of five lock-up shops (with basement and sub-basement) are arising opposite the L.M.S.Ry. station in the High Road, being designed and erected by D. Morris & Sons; the structural ironwork is supplied by West & Brooks. In Thurlow Gardens, too, Messrs. Lawton & Wright are the architects for several new houses, Lawes, Cherry & Co., Ltd., being the builders. An important building now in progress is the Middlesex Council School, on the High Road, from the designs of the Council architect, Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., the general contractors being H. Knight & Son; the Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., are supplying the asphalte. Two shops are being built in St. John's Road, with one flat over the two; Neale & Cook are the builders and are their own architects; G. Lansdown is executing the electrical installation; Fred Hodge, Ltd., are supplying the "Ideal Domestic" boiler; British Building Supplies, Ltd., for grates, etc.; and "Severn" pattern w.c. apparatus is being introduced. Clarke & Denison are also erecting several houses in Park Road and Station Grove, where "Compax" grates are being used throughout, and "Phoenix" H.W. circulating tanks. And elsewhere in the district houses are busily arising.

Regarding Devonshire House, Piccadilly, now being erected from the designs of Mr. Thomas Hastings and Professor C. H. Reilly, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., about which we had a note in our issue of October 16 last, we can now furnish the following *additional* particulars as to sub-contractors:—Manu-Marble Co., for manum-marble; Doulton & Co., Ltd., for sanitary fittings; Wheeler (London), Ltd., plastering; Waygood-Otis, Ltd., for self levelling lifts (eleven); London Brick Co. & Forders, Ltd., "Phorpres" Fletton bricks; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, artesian wells; Frederick Braby & Co., Ltd., interior steel stairs; Grier-son, Ltd., electrical installations; Art Pavement & Decorations, Ltd., for "Armadek" flooring; and Gas Light & Coke Co., for cooking and heating.

In our issue of September 25 last we referred to St. James' House, St. James' Street, in course of erection from the designs of Mr. George Vernon. We can add the following particulars, additional to what was therein given:—for demolition and excavation, St. Mary Wharf, Ltd.; for masonry, Ordell Masonry Company.

We mentioned premises in Pall Mall (Nos. 45-46) being re-erected (see our issue of September 25 last); we may add to that information that Kleine floors are being introduced. In the same thoroughfare (Nos. 57-58 and taking in Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 in Crown Court), just opposite Marlborough House, another block of shops and offices is rising from the designs of Messrs. E. Howard & Partners, for which the general contractors are F. G. Minter.

The skeleton structure, which has for so many years formed a depressing spectacle in Piccadilly, is at last being taken in hand for the purposes of an important new hotel (to be known as the Park Lane Hotel), the architects employed being Messrs. Henry Tanner, F.R.I.B.A., and the general contractors being Higgs & Hill, Ltd. Some further particulars, which we can furnish at this stage as to sub-contractors are: Smith-Walker, Ltd., for constructional steelwork; Kleine Flooring Syndicate, for their patent floors; Express Lift Co., for lifts; and Cement Marketing Co., for their "Blue Circle" brand of cement. There will be shops erected on the ground storey. The work is estimated to cost approximately £300,000.

Additional to the remarks in our issue of October 23 last upon the new buildings arising on the site of Nos. 14-16 Waterloo Place, from the designs of Mr. Durward Brown, we can give the following particulars as supplementary: H. W. Dutton & Co., Ltd., ventilation; and Anselm Odling & Sons, Ltd., marble work.

Near by the latter block at No. 1 Regent Street (i.e., above the Quadrant), where British Columbia House stands, erected in

1914 from the design of Mr. Alfred Burr, F.R.I.B.A., alterations are taking place, with Kirk & Kirk, Ltd., as contractors, the Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd., carrying out bankers' engineering work, and Trenner & Sons supplying the signs.

At the upper end of the Quadrant in Regent Street, the premises of Messrs. Swan & Edgar, Ltd., are being rebuilt from the designs of Messrs. Belcher & Joass, and we will supplement now the information we furnished in our issue of October 16 last by the following additional names of sub-contractors:—Newton Water Engineering Co., Ltd., for the "Newton" automatic sprinkler valve; Matthew Hall & Co., for drainage and plumbing; Waygood-Otis, Ltd., for their patent micro-drive lifts; Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., metal windows; Patent Victoria Stone Co., Ltd., artificial stonework; Kleine Patent Fire-resisting Flooring Syndicate, Ltd., roof construction; J. A. King & Co., self-centering tiles; Plastering, Limited, fibrous and solid plastering; Higgins & Griffiths, Ltd., electrical installation; and Arthur L. Gibson & Co., Ltd., for 61 Kinnear patent shutters.

Further along Regent Street we reach the block being rebuilt for Messrs. Duvelleroy's (No. 167, at the corner of New Burlington Street), from the design of Messrs. Yates, Cook & Darbyshire. Particulars of this were given by us a short time since in the issue wherein we devoted considerable space to the works of this firm of architects; so we will only give here the addition to the list of sub-contractors, which we inserted. This is as follows: Express Lift Co., Ltd., for lifts; Art Metal Equipment Co., Ltd., escape staircase; and R. A. Petruccio & Co., Ltd., for terrazzo and tiling.

At Streatham Common, Mr. Arthur Dunch, F.R.I.B.A., is engaged upon a series of two-storeyed houses, the builders being Miller & Sons. The red bricks are supplied by W. D. Cornish, Ltd.; Martin Earle & Co., the Portland cement; "Claro" w.c. pedestal apparatus are used; and "Phoenix" Galvanised iron hot water tanks. The facades are in red brick and rough cast, the roofs are tiled, and each of the houses is accompanied by the inevitable garage. Some not dissimilar houses in Streatham High Road near by are being erected by Wates, Limited.

At Purley, in Woodcote Lane, Mr. E. Hayman is the architect for an extension of class room and dormitory over, for Mr. E. Dodd (of St. Mark's Hall), Dolby and Allen being the builders. The ground storey is rough cast, the first floor being tile-hung, and the roof tiled. In fact, Croydon in general is just now very active in building work of varied nature. Alterations and additions to the General Hospital in London Road are in hand under the architectural guidance of Messrs. Berney & Sons, with Higgs & Hill, Ltd., as general contractors. At Norbury, several houses are in course of erection behind the London Road, W. Aston & Co. being the builders, Philpot Brothers undertaking the electrical installation, and the Fletton bricks being supplied by London Brick Co. and Forders, Ltd. Again in London Road, there is a row of new shops with two upper storeys, from the design of Mr. J. E. Trimble, architect; A. Dean & Co., Ltd., are carrying out the electrical work; John Knowles, Ltd., are supplying the sanitary fittings, amongst these being their "Jonof" w.c. pedestal apparatus, and the original pattern "Burlington" w.w.p.s. Almost directly vis-à-vis there is another block of shops being erected for Messrs. Sainsbury. Flats are being erected on the upper floors; the architect is Mr. Harold Dicksee, A.R.I.B.A., and the builders are W. T. and F. Yates; Mintons, Hollins & Co. are supplying the tiles; H. Young & Co., the structural steelwork; Plowman's Brickfields, Ltd., the Fletton bricks; Young & Son, Ltd., the Portland cement; and Doulton's manhole inspection covers are being used. At Thornton Heath Mr. A. Duckitt is building several houses, acting as his own architect; Hall & Co. are supplying the Portland cement; "White Rose" open fire boilers are the variety employed. Truett & Steel, Ltd., are also building shops, houses and flats on the London Road at Thornton Heath; and in Midhurst Avenue, West Croydon, Mr. J. Midmer is developing a road of new two-storeyed buildings, with Mr. Longman acting as architect; Southwater red bricks are being used; William Ashby & Son, for Portland cement; "Croydon Burlington" w.w.p.s.; "New Electra" w.c. pedestal apparatus; and A. Dean & Co., Ltd., for electrical installation.

Messrs. D. H. Evans's is another important firm having extensions made to their premises (in the rear of their Oxford Street blocks). H. Sabey & Co. are employed for demolition and excavation; J. W. Falkner & Sons are the contractors; and Moreland, Hayne's are supplying the structural steelwork.

CONTENTS.

Romanesque Architecture in Italy	PAGE 379	Correspondence	PAGE 390
Chantry Hall	380	Public Works, Road and Transport Congress and	
Art Galleries and Exhibitions	383	Exhibition	392
Harefield Church and Its Monuments	386	General News	396

“Romanesque Architecture in Italy.”*

The purpose of this book is to give a clear impression of the nature of the Romanesque Architecture in Italy by eliminating much that is usually described as Romanesque, but is in reality the architecture of the races who overthrew Rome and who, influenced by what they saw around them, copied it with inferior means and deficient skill. In the same manner the Romanesque of the Norman conquerors of Sicily and the more Byzantine examples of Venice find no place in the book. Nor does it cover the architecture of the Lombards strongly influenced as it is by German prototypes. In the examples illustrated there is not one in which a rude Corinthian capital is shown such as was carved in earlier centuries and which was a crude copy of a Corinthian prototype, nor does the transitional work which was merging into Italian Gothic find a place in the volume.

For these reasons it includes no examples anterior to the eighth or ninth centuries. The author says: “For us Romanesque architecture begins with the end of the eighth, or, if one prefers, the end of the ninth century, when changed customs of cults made new architectural forms necessary; as, for example, the Campanile, the spacious crypt (from which the apse steps ascend) and the Pontile. Furthermore, tombs are admitted into the interior of the churches. The Narthex or loggia are placed in front of the doorways, and along the side of the church are the cloisters with their cells. Thus since the year 1000 new causes create different forms of expression. They introduce a more intensive development of the vaults and supports, and lead to new possibilities in artistic construction which are soon varied by the revival of sculptural art. Nevertheless, Romanesque construction originates in Italy in this period. Both interior and exterior are enriched by new constructional additions, and henceforth differentiate from the Byzantine style. The latter attained to its highest and most florid development in Justinian’s time, and then declined during the Exarchate and the rule of the Langobards.”

As Signor Ricci says, it is impossible to deny the derivation of Romanesque architecture from that of Rome, but this does not exclude a certain amount of Eastern influence, and the expression Romanesque is just as suitable for this art as for those languages derived from Latin. But as the general impression given by many such buildings is a classical one they are excluded from the present work. While the lower part of St. Mark’s has distinct Romanesque characteristics the general impression given is Byzantine and not Romanesque, with the result that it conveys the sense of a Byzantine building finished at a later age in the prevailing Italian Gothic manner.

Before the ninth century there were no crypts beneath the churches, and those buried beneath the structure were laid to rest under the pavement. The crypt, at first placed under the apse, was afterwards

extended under the whole choir, and in these crypts monumental tombs were erected, which were subsequently also placed in the church itself.

Historians used to maintain that campaniles dated back as early as the sixth century, but it is now known that none of them are earlier than the ninth century, if the towers built for defensive purposes are excluded. The campaniles of Verona were, in fact, built after the year 1000. The oldest, S. Lorenzo, S. Ferno, and the Cathedral, all date from the eleventh century, and S. Zeno, commenced in 1045, was not completed till 1178. Milan has possibly two which are anterior to the eleventh century; S. Satiro is claimed to have been built in 878.

The author says that in the original plans of churches a definite and fixed place was given to every part, but campaniles are found, especially in Ravenna, in every position in relation to the churches to which they belong, a fact which, together with their different character of walling, marks them as subsequent additions. Porticos frequently formed of arches carried on columns resting on animals are another and distinct feature of the Italian Romanesque, for originally churches had only a narthex or pronaos across the whole width of their fronts, sometimes with a columned gallery over. The rose window was another distinctly Romanesque feature never used in Roman or Byzantine architecture. The author considers the lowest phase of Italian art as being that which synchronises with the Lombardic occupation, lasting from 568 to 774. In the decoration of that period all sculptured living forms are monstrous and uncouth. The revival of the ninth century was marked by higher inspiration and architecture was marked by greater vitality and expression. Though the author only writes some twenty closely written pages, he has evidently given great study to the particular phase of which he writes, but the most important part of the work is the very fine collection of photographic views, which number 350, covering the work of the period in every part of Italy, from the “heel” to the extreme north. It is interesting to note how uniform and complete in type are examples from Bari, Brindisi, and Capua in the South to Como and Milan in the north, the complete absence of any really classical influence, except that reticence and delicacy which was probably influenced by the relics of Rome so numerous in every part of Italy, relics and reminders of Rome which in after centuries gave an irresistible impetus to the Renaissance movement, an impetus which swept away the memory of all that had been done in the intervening centuries. So complete, indeed, is the direct continuity of Roman and Renaissance architecture that we could well imagine if Rome had not fallen before the barbarians, that the Renaissance would have dated from the early years of the Christian era, so logical and direct is its connection with the work of the later Roman Empire.

Yet the examples given show better than we have ever seen it demonstrated before that Italy produced

* “Romanesque Architecture in Italy.” By Conrado Ricci. London: William Heinemann, Ltd., 1925. With 350 illustrations. 42s. net.

not two but at least three great architectural epochs, for the Italian Romanesque, cleared of its "dross," stands revealed as an architecture of restraint, delicacy and strength no less than that of the periods which preceded and followed it after intervals.

The great merit of the book lies in the careful elimination of examples which are not those of the best of a great period, and do not even truly belong to it, for in the residuum left its real character stands clearly apparent.

Our Illustrations.

PORTAL AND MINARET, TLEMCON. From Photograph kindly lent by Mr. DAVIS, of MESSRS. MEWES & DAVIS, Architects.

DETAILS—NORTH DOORWAY OF PARISH CHURCH, FERNHURST, SUSSEX. Measured and Drawn by WM. C. KEMP.

THE CHANTRY HALL, THE DEANERY, SOUTHAMPTON. HERBERT BRYANT, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

Chantry Hall.

Description of Building.



CHANTRY HALL SOCIAL CENTRE AND ASSEMBLY HALL, THE DEANERY, SOUTHAMPTON.
HERBERT BRYANT, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

The Chantry Hall, the new Social Centre and Assembly Hall for the Parish of St. Mary, Southampton, presents in many ways unique features as compared with other halls in the district. Its uses will probably be many, and this has been taken into full consideration in general design and planning.

Possessing an architectural treatment suggestive of the latter part of the sixteenth or early seventeenth century, it follows the quadrangle plan, and its little courtyard, surrounded by the buildings, and laid out as a simple formal garden, presents an interesting and unusual feature. The main hall occupies the southern side of this courtyard, and measures (excluding the stage) 85 ft. by 38 ft., with seating accommodation for over 600 people.

The hall has been given a special polished oak dancing floor, this being supplied by Messrs. Sydney Priday & Co.,

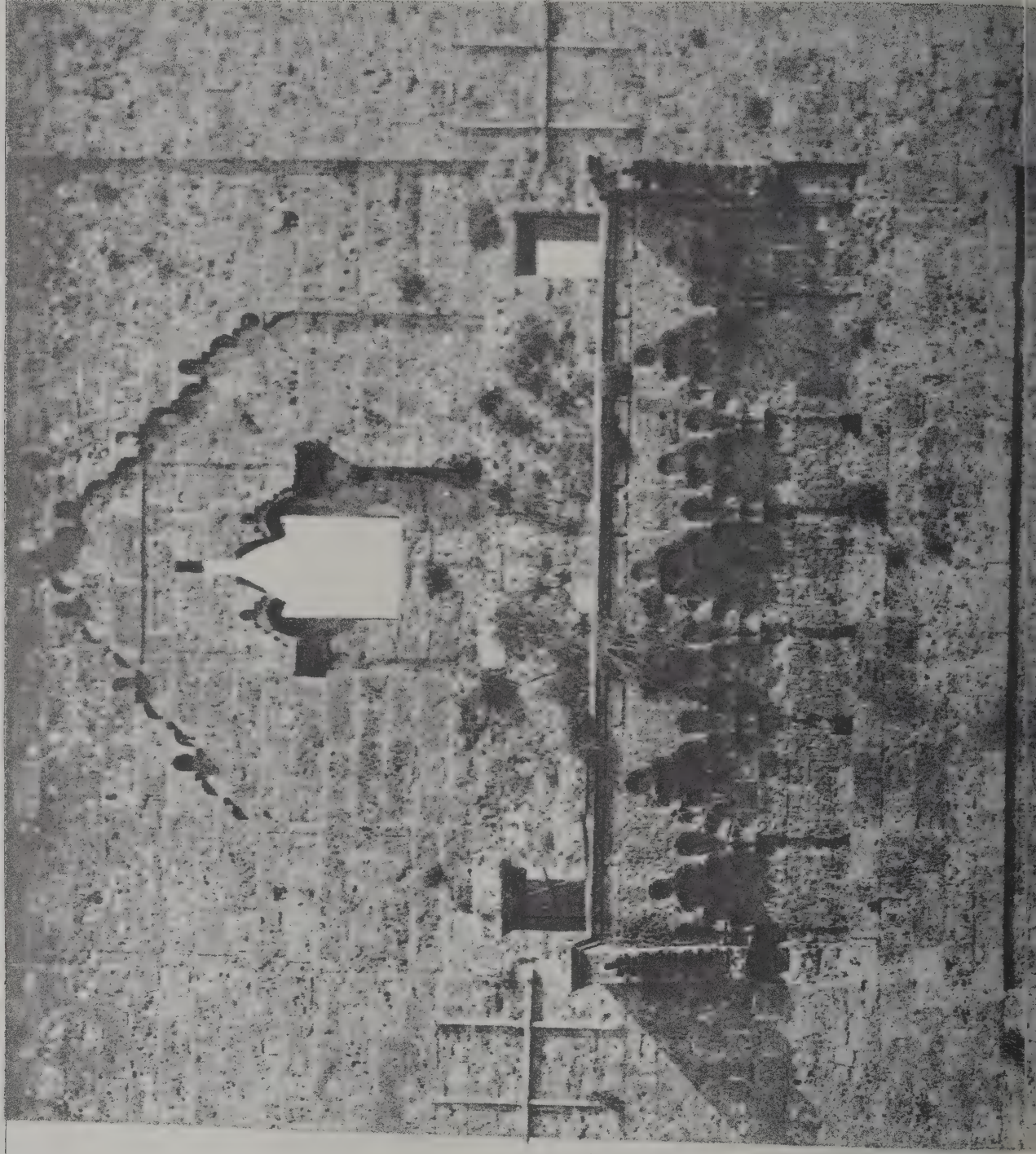
of London, who were responsible for the world's largest dance floor at Olympia.

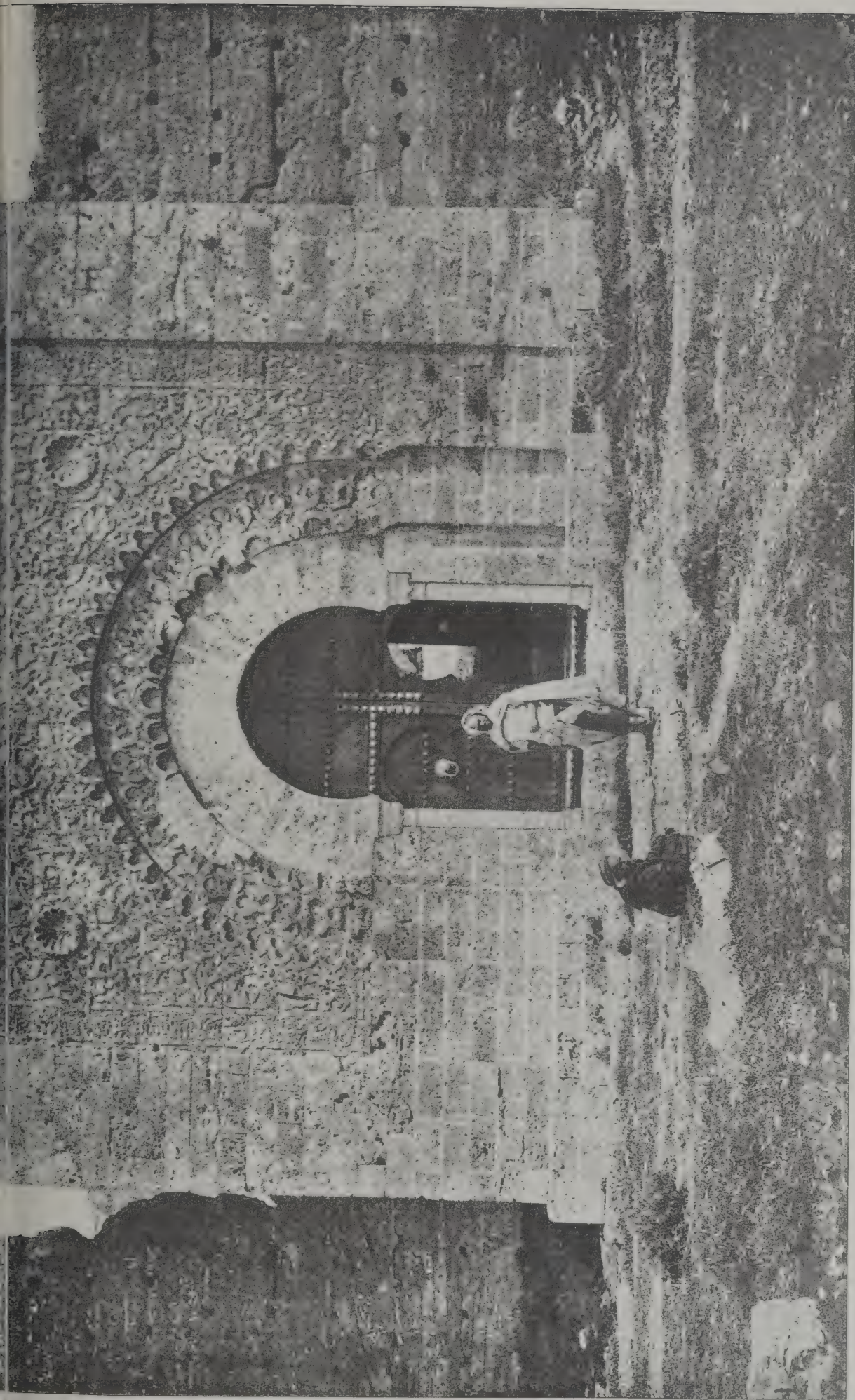
The stage, measuring 38 ft. by 20 ft., is completely separate from the main hall, and possesses proscenium 22 ft. wide, in front of which is a space for a small orchestra below the floor level of the main hall, whilst under the stage will be found a large store for chairs, etc. Communicating with the stage are dressing-rooms (described later), whilst it will be fitted up with complete lighting facilities and other fittings, which will make the hall most suitable for every kind of musical and dramatic entertainment. Public lavatories are situated at the western end of the main hall.

The heating and ventilating system consists of low pressure hot water with boiler in basement, radiators to the main hall, and a system of natural ventilating by means

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THE ARCHITECT, NOVEMBER 27th, 1925.





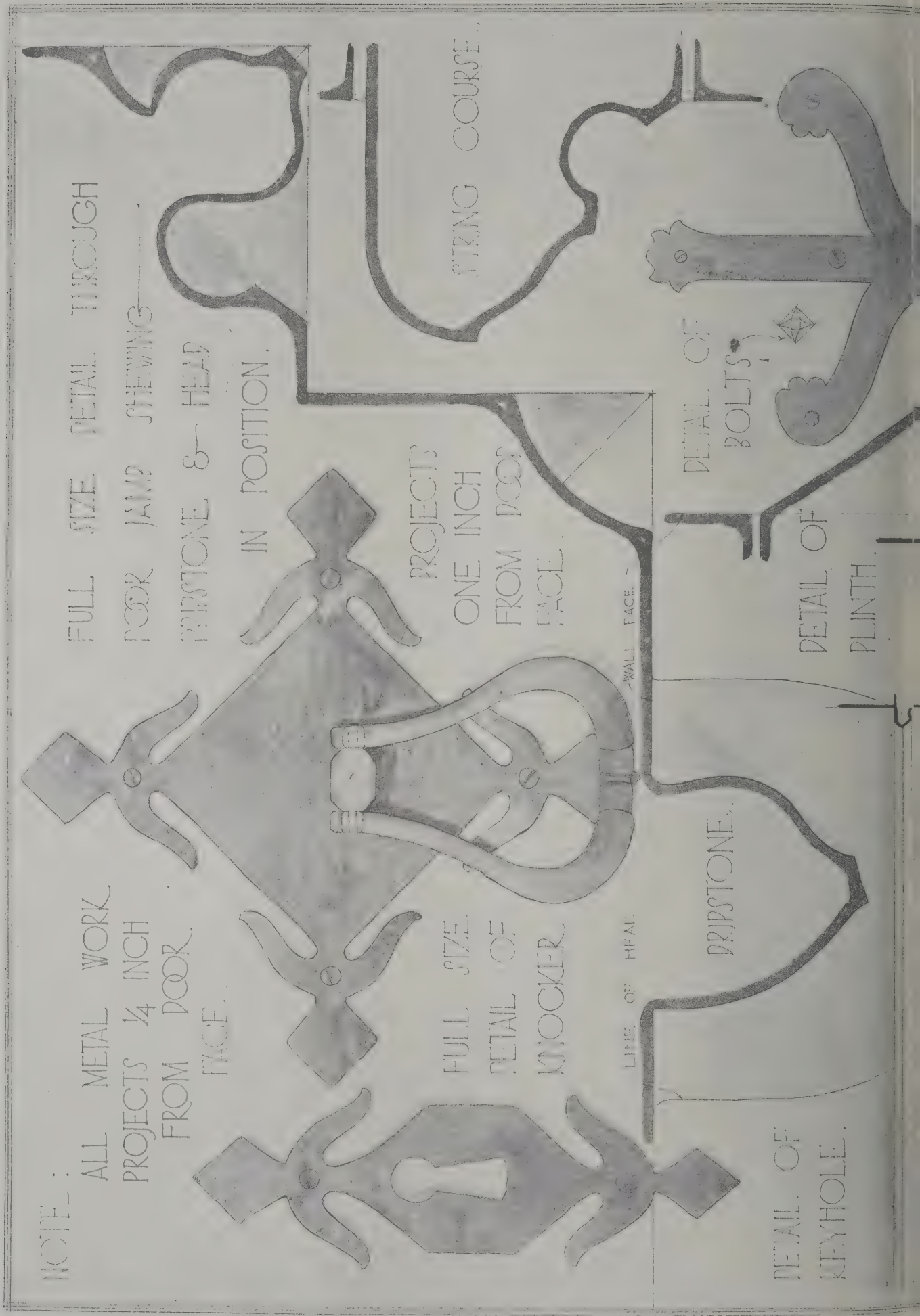
"INK PHOTO" W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C.3

PORTAL AND MINARET, TLEMCON.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH KINDLY LENT BY MR. DAVIS, OF MESSRS. MEWES & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.

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PROJECT $\frac{1}{2}$
INCH FROM
DOOR FACE.

STEP.

EXTERNAL
DOOR FACE.

HALF FULL
SIZE DETAIL
OF HINGE.

SECTION ON
CENTRE LINE.

FRONT ELEVATION.

SCALE.

ONE INCH TO
ONE FOOT.

NORTH DOORWAY OF PARISH
CHURCH FERNHURST SUSSEX

MEASURED AND DRAWN BY W. C. KEMP. JULY 1925.

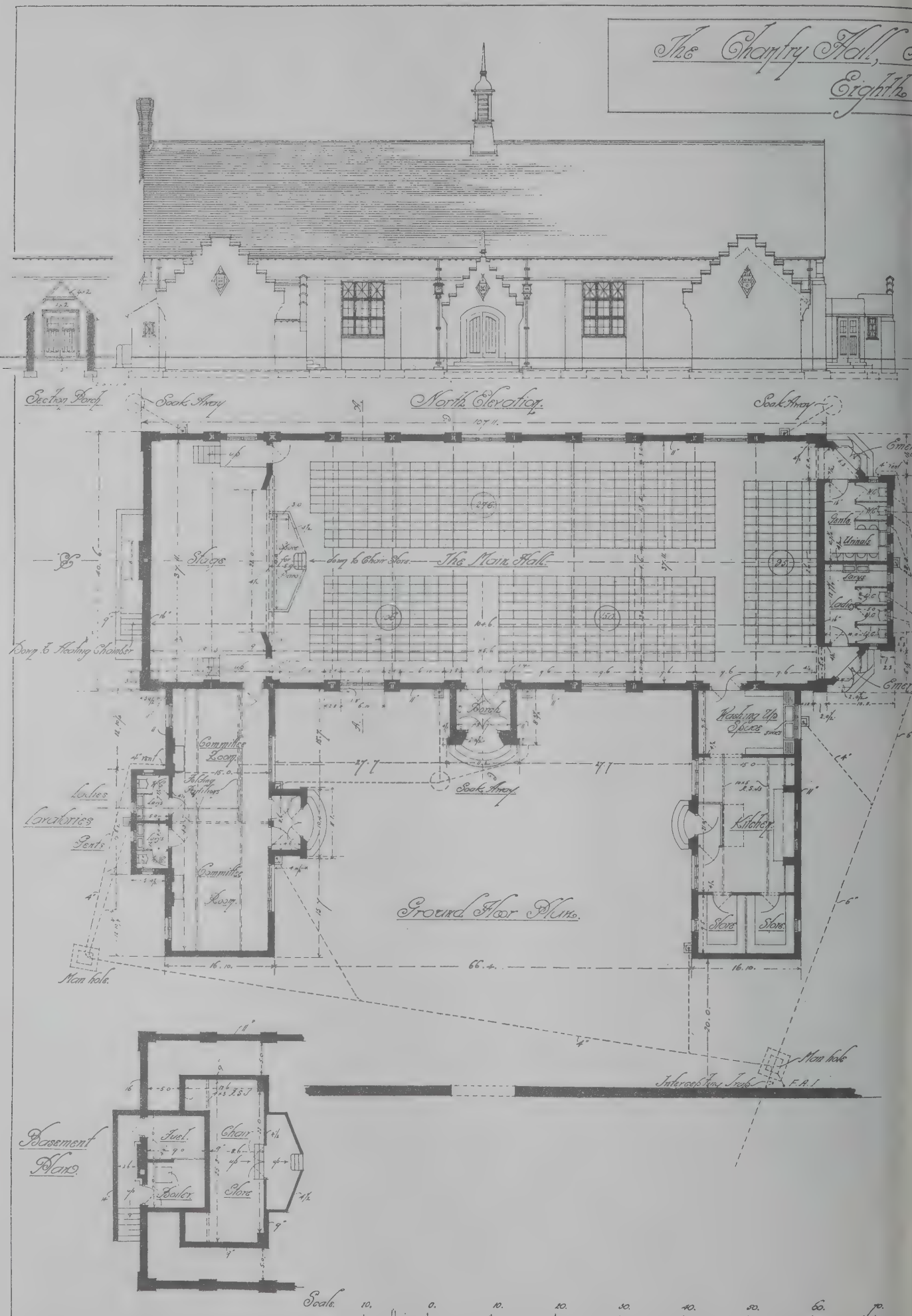
DETAILS—NORTH DOORWAY OF PARISH CHURCH, FERNHURST, SUSSEX.

MEASURED AND DRAWN BY WM. C. KEMP.

IMP. PHOTO BY BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON. S. 67

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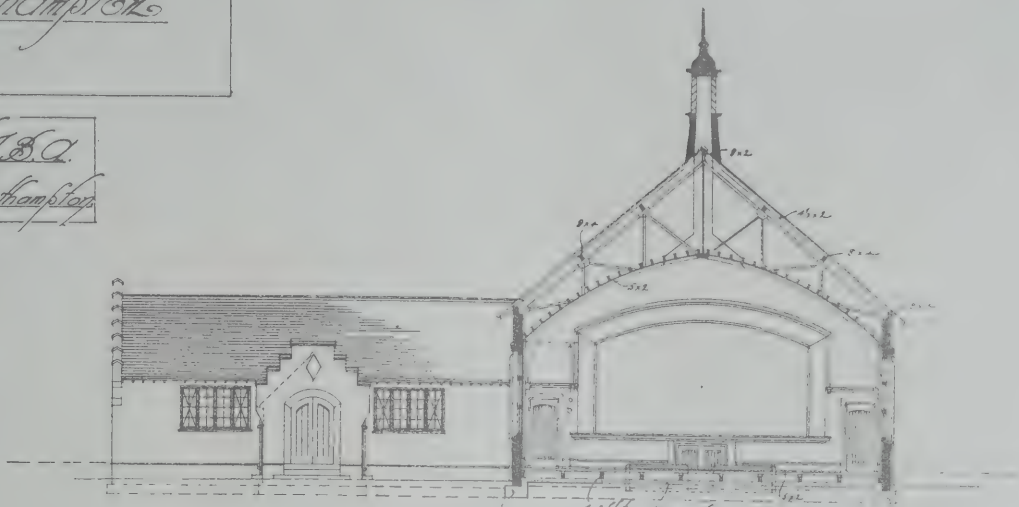
MBER 27th, 1925.

Seamery Southampton
S. 11. 13.

Mr. Bryant A.R.C.S.
West Chambers Southampton



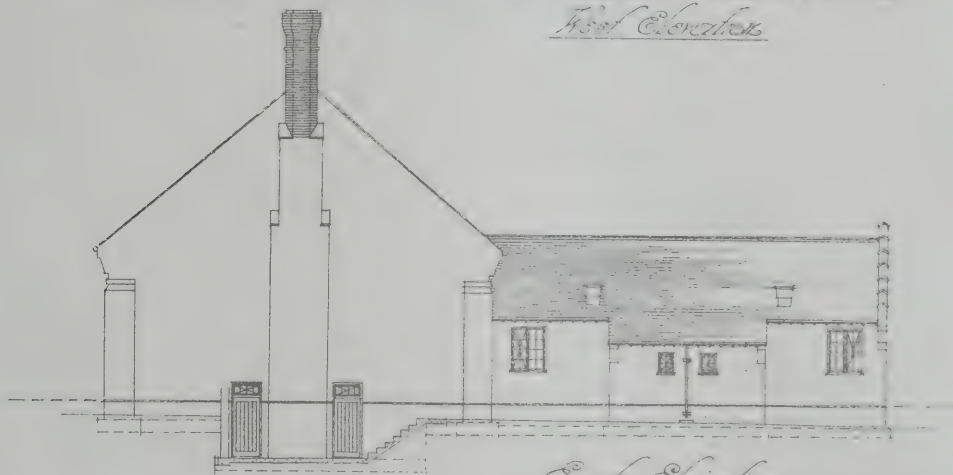
Roof S.S.F.
D.D.



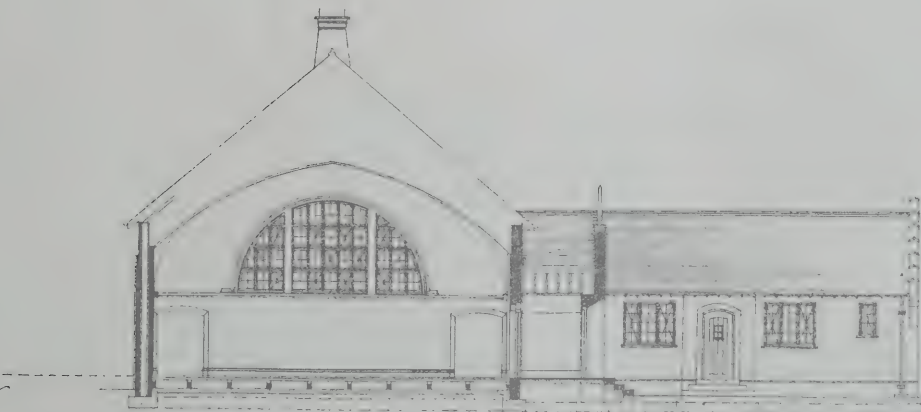
Section A.A.



West Elevation



East Elevation



Section C.C.

PHOTO-LITHO. WM BROWN & CO. LTD LONDON, E.C. 2

ERY, SOUTHAMPTON.

ARCHITECT.

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CHANTRY HALL SOCIAL CENTRE AND ASSEMBLY HALL, THE DEANERY, SOUTHAMPTON.
HERBERT BRYANT, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

of fresh air inlets behind radiators, with foul air outlets in the centre of ceiling, these being connected by trunk shafts to the centre ventilator. The heating system has been supplied and fixed by Messrs. Haden & Sons of Trowbridge, Wilts.

The electric lighting scheme has been undertaken by Messrs. F. W. Cook & Co. (Southampton), Ltd., whom it will be remembered recently carried out the electric lighting installation of St. Mary's Church. An outstanding feature of the general lighting is the mirror-lined trough light fittings, concealed behind the plaster cornice on either side of the main hall. By this method a beautiful diffused light is obtained, with an almost entire absence of shadow.

The stage of the hall has been fitted with specially constructed stage lighting equipment, comprising footlights, top battens with coloured lamps for various effects, and plugs for portable limelights, all controlled by special switchboard at the back of stage. The hall is also plugged for cinema projector, and arrangements are complete for the immediate installation of wireless equipment. The whole of the above lighting arrangements and control switchboards have been supplied by the Edison Swan Company.

On the eastern side of the courtyard are the Committee rooms with separate entrances. This wing of the building is so arranged that by means of folding partitions (supplied by the Educational Supply Association, Ltd.) it can be used as one large room 40 ft. by 15 ft., capable of seating 100 people; two equal sized Committee rooms, very necessary for meetings of the Parish Organisations, two dressing-rooms with separate access to the stage for dramatic performances, with lavatory accommodation (hot and cold) for both sexes; and two cloak rooms, with separate access for use in conjunction with the main hall for whist drives, dances, etc.

At the western side of the courtyard will be found the kitchen block, containing very up-to-date and complete

catering arrangements for large teas or dinners in the main hall, where it is anticipated that a catering service for 400 to 500 may be necessary.

The cooking apparatus has been supplied by the Southampton Gas Light and Coke Company, Ltd., and is of the most modern labour-saving pattern. To supply hot water to the washing up sinks and public lavatories, an "Iron-clad" gas boiler has been installed, with hot water circulation to a supply cylinder and thence on to various points required. This boiler is most economical in use, and the supply of gas is automatically controlled by a thermostatic valve, when the water rises to a certain temperature.

The general contractors are Messrs. H. Stevens & Co., Millbank Street, Northam, Southampton, who submitted the lowest tender for the work, and the total cost of the building inclusive of boundary walls, iron gates, and railings, but excluding the furniture, will be about £9,000.

Sub-contractors for the work not previously mentioned are:—

Messrs. Gaze & Son, fibrous plaster work.

"Doloment" floors to kitchen block.

Messrs. Carter & Son, Poole, floor and wall tiles.

"Vronlog" green slates to roofs.

Messrs. Harland & Son, Merton. All paint work.

Messrs. Macfarlane, Glasgow. Rain-water heads and gutters, etc.

Messrs. Shanks, Glasgow. Sanitary fittings.

"Blokcrete" Company, Southampton. Breeze block partitions and lintols.

Messrs. Caslake, Bournemouth. Interior ironwork, gates, railings, etc.

Messrs. Geo. M. Hammer & Co., Crown Works, Bermondsey, London, supplied the seating accommodation.

The Architect for the building and lay-out scheme was Mr. Herbert Bryant, A.R.I.B.A., Bargate Chambers, Southampton.

Notes and Comments.

"Or Equal."

The "American Architect" gives a very amusing skit touching the weakness of the clause frequently introduced into our specifications "or equal thereto." It runs—

Or Equal, Oh you fakir's friend
Why specify at all
If alibi's you need must quote
John Doe would answer all.

You men whose pencils pierce the sky
With buildings mountain high,
Get up on top and get the view
The best is not too high.

Just put the kind you know is best
Upon the contract form
And stand for that 'till hell is cold
That's running true to form.

We believe it is usually best if an architect is not in doubt that he should state what he means to use. If, as is sometimes said, the mention of a specific firm's goods is inclined to make them unreasonable in their dealings with a contractor because they think themselves safe, it is a definite reason for considering they are not "the best," because the best firms are not only those who supply the best goods but who deal with customers in a reasonable and considerate manner. On the other hand, it is a convenience to a contractor to know from the outset the exact nature of the goods he will have to buy and the firms he will have to deal with for them. There is much ambiguity in the clause "or equal thereto." What is equal in one man's estimation may not be so in another's.

The Guildhall.

The provision of a new art gallery has been under discussion by the Court of Common Council. Before the War it had been decided to spend £70,000 on rebuilding the wing facing Guildhall Yard and the work was actually commenced in August 4th, 1914, but immediately abandoned. The Guildhall is a somewhat mixed assortment of style and dates but probably no secular building in the country occupies quite so great a position in the minds of a great number of people. A finer architectural building might be devised, but it would not stand for as much as does the Guildhall which, as Mr. Sydney Perks has shown, is interwoven with every phase of the history of England. It is for this reason that every addition to the fabric is of interest to us all.

The Epstein Controversy.

We frequently find the warmest controversy is roused over comparatively small issues, and contemporary journalism has found much "Press copy" in the rather subtle discussion over the merits of Epstein's work in connection with the Hudson memorial. In the first place, the memorial occupies a secluded position and cannot, to use a colloquial expression, "hit anyone in the eye." In the second place, it has been erected and paid for by a limited number of admirers and not by the general public, and in the third place, it has been sanctioned by the proper authorities. Moreover, Mr. Epstein's work is not the whole memorial but merely an important part of it and few can deny that the setting and composition of the memorial as a whole is delightful: it is both restful and dignified. Of the critics there are some whose ideals and points of view though they may not "have stopped short in the cultivated court of the Empress Josephine" are governed by the standards of twenty or thirty years ago. If any artistic work is a strong and vivid outcome of personality it is bound to please some and to be objected to by others. We do not say that nothing better could have been done but that a work of timid mediocrity would have been more regrettable. In a word, if the objectors feel so strongly they would make out a better case if they employed an artist or a sculptor to show what they would replace Epstein's work with. This would unquestionably cost

money but surely those who have expressed such indignation would not mind this?

The Contingency Clause in a Contract.

We have come across clients who appear to misunderstand the nature of the contingency clause in a contract. We have always understood it as a small fund which can be drawn upon at the architect's reasonable discretion and without any consultation with the client to effect improvements in a building during the period of its construction which he considers to be in his client's interests. We should not hold that the architect was quite justified in using money from such a source for panelling or decorating a room but, on the other hand, we should hold him entirely justified in effecting some improvement in a roof or in strengthening a pier or wall or increasing the size of constructional timbers. Yet we have come across clients who consider that though such a use has been made of a portion of the contingency fund, the whole of which has not been expended, the architect has exceeded his functions because they have not been consulted. This, to our mind, is equivalent to giving a man money to expend in a certain undertaking and then expecting him to consult the giver about every item of his expenditure. In other words, such an attitude seems to us the reverse of reasonable and not calculated to promote the smooth conduct of building operations. It would in many cases hamper or prevent the best being done in the client's interests. We should, in a word, be ready to believe that those who serve us will exercise "reasonable discretion" in such matters.

Art Galleries and Exhibitions.

THE LANDING STAGE, LIERNA. VIVIAN D. RYAN.
Beaux Arts Gallery, Bruton Place, W.

At the Beaux Arts Gallery, the paintings of Mr. Vivian Ryan are on exhibition. The pictures have been selected so as to best represent the wide range of technique which this artist commands. In his impressionistic pictures he proves that he possesses the knowledge to discriminate correctly as to what to paint and what to leave to the imagination. The colouring is brilliant, without in any way being glaring or crude.

The exhibition of colour prints of the Far East by Elizabeth Keith, which is on view at the Beaux Arts Gallery, should have closed on the 14th inst., but the public interest has far exceeded all anticipations. Copies of some prints have been sold more than thirty times, and visitors will find ten to fifteen red spots on most of the exhibits. The colourings are truly wonderful and the spirit of the ancient wood block artists has been effectively reproduced. Some prints are out of print, but, whilst in all cases the editions are strictly limited, proofs of most of the exhibits are still available.

At the Arlington Gallery, 22 Old Bond Street, W.1, the Campden Hill Club Exhibition, which closes to-day, contained many pictures of merit and interest. No. 6, "Abraham and Isaac," by E. Hodgkin, was a curious picture. For quite a considerable time one sought in vain for Isaac and then suddenly he was revealed just as in olden times puzzles used to be included in journals, "Find the husband," and when found he was so conspicuous as to obtrude. So it is with Mr. E. Hodgkin's Isaac. The pose of Abraham must have caused considerable pain to the model that served the artist for this figure. The catalogue was very necessary when inspecting No. 9. If one should be interested in what not to paint No. 8 afforded a striking example. The catalogue informs one that £20 is the price of this effort which illustrated a total lack of appreciation for composition in respect to the selection of a colour scheme. Miss Joan Peach contributed a subject picture entitled "Job." The painting will attract many; it illustrates in a splendid way self-inflicted pain—"Job" has managed to twist his neck in a manner seldom seen. M. E. Menzies-Jones had a number of pictures in the gallery. When serious this artist's style is pleasing and attractive, though 102 illustrates a degree of carelessness which the artist should not encourage. Miss D. H. de Carteret's exhibit, titled "Haystacks on the Sussex Downs," was distinctly good, the decorative quality is pleasing. No. 28 "Walcheren," by George P. Mackeson, has parts that are truly delightful, the sky was perhaps a little unsatisfactory. The work of Miss Rosalind Seaton is very promising in every way, drawing colour and composition.

At the Brook Street Art Gallery, 14 Brook Street, W., Alfred H. and Louise Powell are exhibiting a collection of hand-painted pottery. Of late decorated pottery has been rather pushed on one side by exponents of the art of chance effects. Potteryware with many fancy names has and is being frequently exhibited in the West End. Some examples are beautiful, the textural effects frequently call forth unbounded praise. The shapes are also often pleasing, but for all that one seems to miss the painter's hand. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have selected a representative collection of their pottery. Some heraldic designs have been applied to large plates. The colourings are harmonious, and these plates should attract many. Beautifully-coloured and painted plates are always in great request as supplying spots of colour in decorative schemes, and members of the public who favour heraldic designs will find the style and manner of those exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. Powell sympathetic. Many articles for domestic service purposes are also simply and effectively decorated; the prices are in no way of a fancy character.

At the Sporting Gallery, 32 King Street, Covent Garden, Mr. Ernest Shepard is exhibiting drawings of children illustrating "Playtime and Company." Some drawings from "Punch" are also on view. Mr. Lionel Edwards is showing "A Sportsman's Year" and other pictures. Mr. Reginald E. Higgins, R.B.A., R.O.I., has a collection of drawings on view in the same gallery illustrating "Some Modern Girls."

SHEPHERDS BUSH.—A scheme has been prepared by the L.C.C. for providing housing accommodation at the old fire station at Shepherds Bush at a cost of £7,000, including the value of the premises. Twelve tenements are to be provided.

WORTHING.—West Sussex Education Committee have decided to enlarge the Worthing Secondary School at a cost of about £4,500.

Book Notes.

The Art of Drawing in Lead Pencil.

The second edition of this valuable book by Jasper Salway has been published this week by Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., at 12s. 6d. net. The author strikes at the very root of the subject, and deals with the problems that must arise before every serious student in a very practical manner. The chapters on Elementary and Advanced Technique are very thorough. Methods for expressing various forms such as skies, trees, bushes, etc. etc., are described and illustrated in an able manner. The author devotes considerable attention to the subject of Experimental Sketches, and what one finds most useful in the book are the many illustrations that have been included which show the different ways in which artists have expressed the same forms in nature. By a careful study of the various methods of expression, the student is bound to acquire a vivid sense of the necessity of possessing a wide knowledge of how different forms can most effectively be introduced into pictures. The author is very clear in his remarks on the necessity for creating a sense of distance, and also in studying the composition of the proposed pictures. Visiting many exhibitions during the year, one finds that many artists possess a fine appreciation for colour, but possess only a very limited knowledge of how to depict trees in contrast with bushes, hills and other details. They frequently apply the same technique to everything in their pictures with the natural result that nothing is in harmony. Looking through the volume before us, we note the fine way in which J. Needham depicts trees: the simplicity of his style is well illustrated on page 54, Figure 24, Chestnut Tree. The strong sunlight effect secured by F. L. Griggs, in Fig. 29, page 59, should supply many useful lessons to the student.

The foreground is expressed by vigorous lines massed together, the distance is obtained by a softer touch, though strength is ever present even in the softer tones.

Two drawings by Alfred Parsons clearly illustrate the wonderful technique which this artist commands, pages 153 and 155.

Mr. A. E. Newcombe's methods are in striking contrast to Alfred Parsons'. Fig. 74, "Streatley Mill, Berkshire," page 158, is full of sweetness and charm. The different tone values and their different technique all contribute to the resulting of a fine composition and picture. On page 167, we see F. L. Griggs in an entirely different mood. "The Rood Tower, Lincoln," is a masterly drawing of architectural detail. The light and shade introduced is fine in quality. Fig. 83, "Road Near Mears Ashby, Northamptonshire," by the same artist, is yet another demonstration of a different method for producing a realistic effect by the pencil medium. Frank L. Emanuel is well represented on page 169. Arthur Welford's style is illustrated on page 178, "Sloughden, Suffolk," Fig. 93. The clear, unaffected simplicity of Mr. Welford's methods will appeal to many. The book is full of masterpieces, which in themselves supply lesson after lesson. The author has not included many of his own fine drawings, such as were illustrated in a number of articles included in *THE ARCHITECT* some months ago. We are informed that these and much other data are to be incorporated in another book on the subject of Pencil Draughtsmanship which is in active preparation by Mr. Salway and Messrs. Batsford, Ltd.

ST. PANCRAS.—The managers have prepared a scheme for rebuilding the St. Aloysius Roman Catholic School, St. Pancras. Accommodation is to be provided for 300 children.

WEST AUCKLAND.—Preliminary plans for an elementary school at West Auckland are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

USWORTH.—A site for the erection of an elementary school at Usworth Colliery has been acquired by the Durham County Education Committee.

SWALWELL.—Durham County Education Committee are negotiating for a site at Swalwell for the erection of an elementary school.

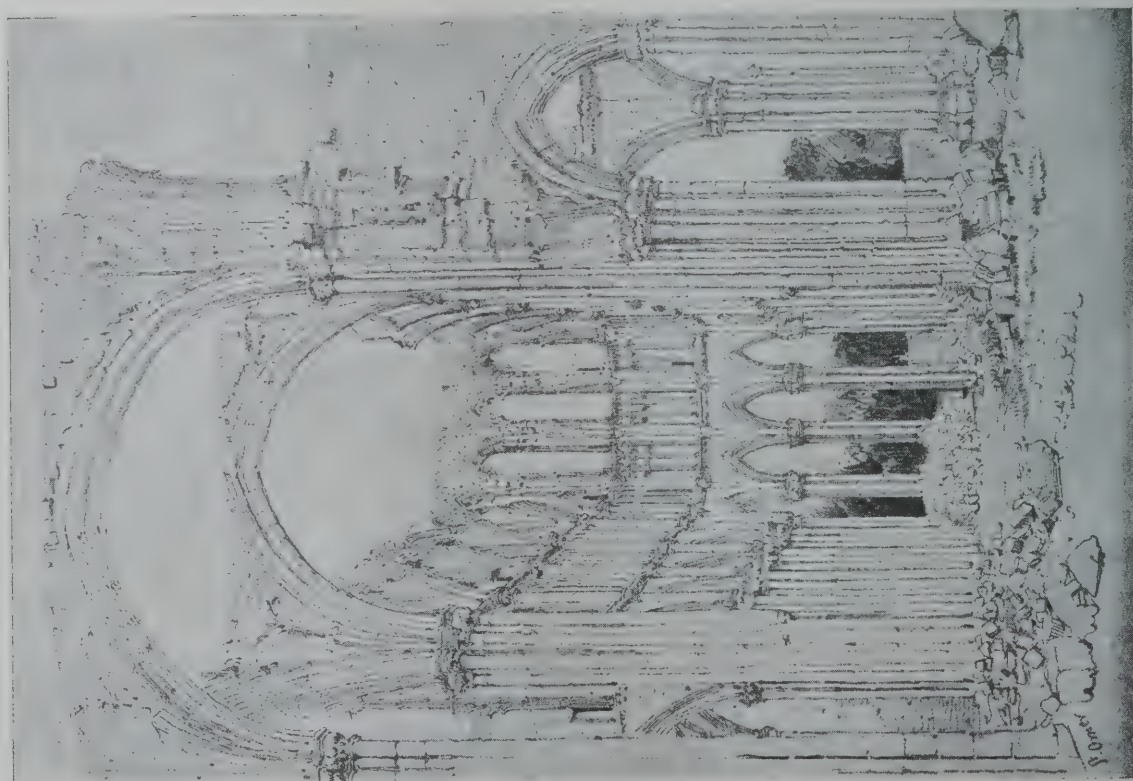


Fig. 108. ST. OMER. By SAMUEL PROUT.



Fig. 109. LAON CATHEDRAL. By ARNOLD MITCHELL.

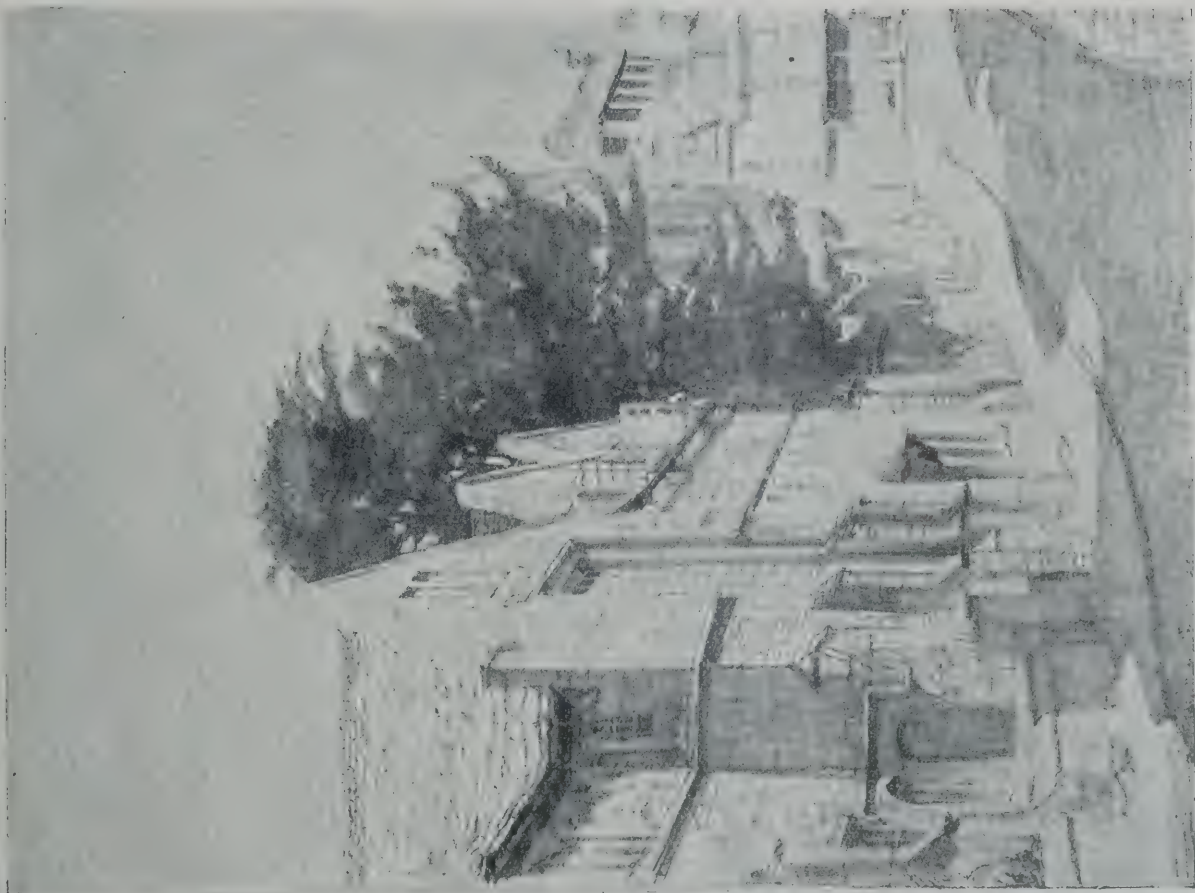


Fig. 112. CHURCH STREET, BRADFORD-ON-AVON. By HAROLD FALKNER.

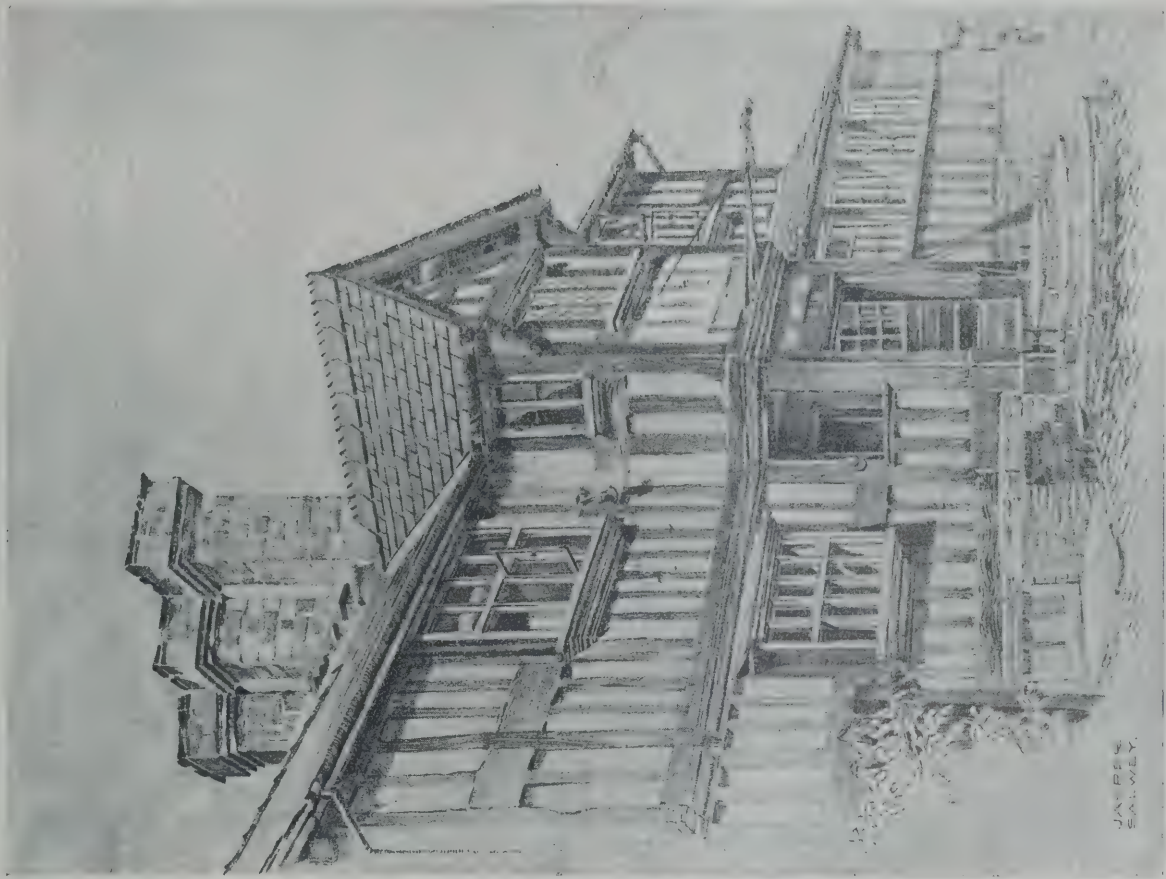


Fig. 114. THE RADNORSHIRE ARMS, PRESTEIGN. By JASPER SALWEY.

From "THE ART OF DRAWING IN LEAD PENCIL," By JASPER SALWEY. B. T. BATSFORD, LTD., Publishers.

Harefield Church and its Monuments.

A Lecture Delivered at Gerrards Cross on November 9, 1925, by Mrs. Esdaile.

There are no better places in which to study the history of English sculpture than those of our country churches which lie near the home of a great county family, and few have this advantage more conspicuously than the little church of Harefield, Middlesex. For centuries it was the custom in such families to honour the dead by devoting to their memory monuments of the finest order which the survivors could compass, and it was only when the Oxford Movement put a stop to the practice by substituting for it something dedicated to the uses of the church itself, whether stained glass windows, font or pulpit, that our monumental art fell wholly into the hands of the monumental mason. Those who in 1750 would have employed a sculptor of the first order to put up a memorial—probably a portrait—to their dead, in 1850 put up a simple cross or tablet from the nearest mason's yard and devoted the bulk of what they would otherwise have spent to some object more ecclesiastical. This was disastrous to sculpture and very often disastrous to the church; but it is only fair to add that sculpture itself had already degenerated, partly owing to the Neo-Hellenistic movement of which more hereafter, partly for a very practical reason indeed. Up to 1770 or thereabouts sculptors had not only made their own models, but had worked on the marble itself after the first rough hewing by the mason; about that time improvements in the mechanical appliances of the art led to the fatal habit of entrusting the entire execution of the marble—of the monument as we see it—to assistants, and sometimes to mere workmen. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, as we shall see, even a detail like the lettering was not beneath the sculptor himself; at the end of the century, the sculptor did not always make his clay models even, but sometimes left his assistants to carry them out from his drawings. Execution, in fact, was divorced from design, and the result was inevitably fatal. With these preliminaries let us turn to our subject.

"Probably no church is so rich in mural monuments, mostly of the Tudor and Jacobean eras," says Walford of Harefield in his "Greater London": but the church as he describes it in 1883 has gone for good. The "tombs of Egertons, Ashbys and Newdigates innumerable" are indeed still there; but the effect of the "poor modern restoration" has been happily tempered by good taste; the "really fine collection of helmets, casques, gloves and other funeral armour belonging to the Nacheworths and Swanlands and Egertons" is no longer "taken down from the walls and lying heaped together, dusty and uncared for, on the sedilia to the south of the Communion Table," but restored—what is left of it, for his description implies a larger collection than now exists—to its place on the south wall of the chancel.

Let me say at once that I have never seen a church—and I have visited over a hundred-and-fifty in the past year alone—more lovingly kept or more exquisitely cared for. Stand half-way down the nave and look towards the east end. To your left is the north aisle, ending in the Ashby Chantry with its monuments and palimpsest brasses, casts of the undersides being placed upon the wall; to your right the south aisle ending in the Brackenbury Chapel. In front are the six steps of the raised chancel, whose altar stands within pentagonal altar rails, seventeenth century Flemish work said—like the splendid screen of the same open scroll type at the back of the altar—to have been brought to Harefield by Sir Roger Newdigate. Above this screen kneel two angels, Flemish also, but earlier in date, supporting a glass panel inscribed, in poor late lettering alas, with the Ten Commandments. To the left of the altar is Grinling Gibbons' monument to Lady Newdigate, to the right the great tomb of Milton's Countess of Derby. On the north wall of the chancel is a grand array of Newdigate monuments; on the south wall three vast black niches containing lofty funeral jars, above which hangs the array of funeral armour already alluded to, whose dates range according to Walford from 1400 to 1570.

Monuments everywhere, and all most admirably kept. The point is worth stressing, because even in Canterbury Cathedral two years ago I saw a monument by Rysbrack sadly in need of dusting, and at Bury St. Edmunds last month was appalled by the masses of dust and cobwebs which disfigured two large eighteenth century monuments at the west door of the Cathedral, and on floor level. It is no exaggeration to say that sculpture kept as that at Harefield is kept is all too rare.

In this first survey also note the fine three-decker pulpit on the right, since complete examples are now rare indeed, and the delightful wrought iron lamp stands in the chancel, suggesting the mace and sword stands of our City churches, but with the sacred monogram in place of a coat of arms. They are models of what such things should be, and far more dignified and appropriate than the hanging paraffin lamp. The old brass candelabra hangs in the first arch of the nave to the left; its preservation is a rare and fortunate thing.

And now, is it true, as Walford says, that "such cumbersome and costly structures" as the monuments "sadly detract from the beauty of the sacred edifice itself, and tell rather of human pride and vainglory than of humility and repentance"? It is a matter of taste, no doubt, but a church wholly devoid of monuments and tablets seems to me a dead thing. Keble's church at Hursley, for instance, which he rebuilt with such pain and loving care and gutted of everything which told of the past life of the village, is the most depressing place of worship I ever entered, and the effect is fully as much due to the absence of monuments as to the deplorable type of fittings due to the untrained Gothic taste of the Oxford Movement. Surely Gray struck the truer note in that "Elegy," written but seven miles from Harefield, and in the boast of heraldry, the pomp of power, the storied urn and animated bust, in contrast with the common lot of man, found the truest pathos of his poem.

Harefield is no place for the study of our great mediæval sculpture. The earliest tomb, brasses apart, is in the south-east corner of the chancel, an altar tomb under a fine traceried canopy to John Newdigate, whose brass, in a richly fumed gown of Henry VII's time, with that of his wife and children, is affixed to the wall above the tomb itself. But the sculpture proper begins with the tomb of John Newdigate (ob. 1610) and his wife who kneel on either side of a prayer-desk with a winged skull above their heads. This Lady Newdigate was Maid of Honour to Queen Elizabeth, but the monument, though good of its kind, yields in interest to that of Sir Robert Ashby (ob. 1617), which is of exactly the same type as the last, but of finer workmanship, and with a lower panel representing their five sons, the eldest, Sir John, who died in 1623 at the age of thirty-one, being, by a quaint convention, twice the size of his brothers. The decoration of the panels flanking the main design is a very fine example of the delicate alabaster relief of the period; among the conventional sprays of foliage is on one side an hour-glass, symbol of the shortness of life, on the other a skull, that humane Renaissance substitute for the ghastly *cadaver* of the Middle Ages. To the colouring of both monuments we shall return hereafter. Meanwhile I would draw your attention to a notable point. Ruskin declared that the essence of a monumental effigy was that it should lie dead, and dead in dignity, after the fashion of our great mediæval monuments. But art must advance if it is to be alive, and before the Middle Ages were ended, such a figure as Lord Despenser's, kneeling, in the canopy above his altar tomb at Tewkesbury, was there to proclaim in what direction the advance was to be made. Henry VII directed in his will that a kneeling figure of himself should be placed above the shrine of Edward the Confessor. His wish was not fulfilled, and his figure on Towegian's tomb is of strictly mediæval form; but by 1550 the kneeling figure—the figure, that is, of the subject

when alive and not when dead—had made its appearance, and in the thirty years which followed it, and the bust, became exceedingly common. Colouring added to the life-like quality of these works, and though the recumbent effigy of the old type went on until the 1680's, it went side by side with a modified form in which the effigy of the dead reclined indeed, but rested on its elbow. The old convention in fact was dead by 1700, and the reclining figure, or the bust, both without the aid of colour, had become universal. Once this innovation was established, others crept in. The standing figure, the seated figure, made their appearance; and if we do not find them at Harefield, we shall find the effigy leaning on its elbow. This brief sketch, suggested by the Jacobean tombstone, will at least lead up to the nightcapped bust we now have to consider. If you are going to have a portrait, a live portrait of the man as you knew him, you will naturally have it as like as possible. But exactly how the realistic portrait arose from the mediæval effigy, itself a type and not a portrait, is a thing few people, I think, realise. I have tried to give its pedigree, to show how naturally and legitimately realistic art developed out of the Gothic tombs we all admire.

Let us now consider that amazing monument to Alice, Countess of Derby, who died in 1636. There she lies, like a princess in a fairy tale, her golden coronet over her flowing golden hair, her three daughters, also with loose tresses, kneeling below. What a patroness for the young Milton in those early Harefield days, when he, whose own beauty had a few years before earned him the name of the Lady of Christ's, wrote the *Arcades* for her amusement and filled the sweetness of *l'Allegro* with pictures drawn from the pastoral Harefield scenery. Above her head is an inscription, "This noble lady's second husband was my Lord Chancellor Egerton; whose only Daughter was Mother to Juliana Lady Newdigate," whence Lady Derby's burial here. On the east side the inscription is longer: "This is ye monument of Alice, Countess Dowager of Derby, one of ye Daughters of Sr. John Spencer of Arthrop [Althorpe] in ye County of Northampton knt. and wife of ye right Honorable Ferdinando Earle of Derby, by whome she had issue three daughters. This Countesse died ye 26 of Jan. 1136, and her aforesaid Lord and husband who died before Her hath Buried in yer Parish Church of Ormskirke with his Ancestors: whose soules remaine in everlasting joy." Even her second husband has Milton's name for a glory, for *Comus* was written for the Egertons as *Arcades* for Lady Derby; and Milton must have known this monument.

The materials deserve a word. The pillars supporting the square canopy rising into a dome are of marble, the black pall on which the Countess lies of plaster, but the effigies, the canopy and the curtains are of painted stucco, a material then much in use, as by Bushnell and Francis du Sart, for decorative sculpture. The monumental use is rare, but not in the least objectionable, especially in view of the colouring, a subject on which something must be said. The colouring of stone, marble, or plaster, was the traditional English method of finishing a monument. The Recognition Scene in the "Winter's Tale" turns on it; Leontes is bidden not to touch the "statue" of Hermione, since it is yet wet from the painter's brush, and indentures for a few monuments of Shakespeare's time, specifying the name of the painter as well as the sculptor, are still extant. But a change was at hand. In one of his later plays Ben Jonson refers to such colouring as "City Taste," probably because Charles I's instructed connoisseurship preferred a work of art to depend on carving rather than on colouring; and Ben Jonson, in touch with the Court, realised that it was becoming rather old-fashioned. But it continued in common use until the Restoration, side by side with the newer fashion, and we have several good examples of its use at Harefield.

This great monument is to the south of the altar; to the north is a grand work by a famous hand, that of Grinling Gibbons himself. I cannot help thinking that Gibbons came to the church, saw where his work was to stand, and followed the lines of the Derby monument, so closely does the shape of the Mary Lady Newdigate, daughter

of Sir Edward Bagot, correspond with the earlier work. The canopy has a drooping valance caught back at the sides instead of the four curtains; its top is adorned by three charming groups of cherub heads; and in place of the arms which crown the dome of the canopy, we have a flaming urn, symbol of immortality, as the urn above is of mortality. Her form, in its loose draperies, is beautifully chiselled, her hands lovely; but the effigy is no longer simply recumbent, but lies upon the elbow, a good example of that use of the living effigy in place of the old stark recumbent figure.

Next in date comes the elaborate and beautiful tablet to Bishop John Pritchett of Gloucester, who died in 1680. He was Lady Derby's chaplain, and curate of Harefield for 30 years; then became rector of St. Andrew Undershaft, was deprived in Cromwellian days, reinstated after the Restoration, and finally, after much suffering in the cause of the church, became Bishop of Gloucester in 1672. The tablet is beautifully carved. Above are cherub heads, their masks of Pan with pointed ears, from whose mouths hang sways of finely carved flowers. Below is a singular satyr mask from which the scroll work goes out to right and left. Hereby hangs a tale. On May 5th I was with the Director of the National Portrait Gallery, examining the portrait of Lauderdale of the Cabal Ministry that day exhibited. I noticed the splendid gilt contemporary frame with its rich scroll work, and he pointed out to me the satyr mask from which that scroll work starts, and added that it was said to have been introduced by Italian workmen in the employ of the Earl of Sutherland about 1675, and is known as the Sutherland Frame.

On May 6th I paid my first visit to Harefield, and beheld this very mask, the whole tablet being in fact of this Sutherland type. There is no book or even article dealing with the evolution either of the picture frame or of the tablet, but elaborate frames were frequently made even by such distinguished sculptors as G. Gibbons, and there can be no doubt, I think, that this peculiar combination of mask, scroll work and swags of flowers is definitely connected with the new decorative motive, introduced into the art of the picture frame by Italian craftsmen, was taken up by sculptors. I have since found several examples of this mask and scroll work on tablets between 1680 and 1700, but it was an odd chance which on May 5th introduced me to its original use in picture frames and on May 6th produced so fine an example of its adaptation to monumental purposes the very next day.

On the north wall of the chancel are several monuments of a kind now wholly out of fashion. Let us examine them one by one.

First comes that of Edward Newdigate (ob. 1734), with a fine profile medallion head turned to the right. Next in order comes the magnificent bust of Sir Richard Newdigate (ob. 1727), a superb nightcapped bust placed on the cornice of a finely designed mural monument. Such a work is a test of our fairness. It is utterly unlike anything we should put up now, but it is splendidly direct and masculine, and of living and convincing truthfulness. The nightcap? Consider the alternatives, a Romanised head with short hair and loose classical drapery, or a full periwig. The very sight of a bust in a wig puts most people off as much as a nightcapped one; the Romanising portrait, a convention of the day, is even less attractive to our taste. In private life our bewigged ancestors lived in their nightcaps, the necessary alternative to the heat of the wig; and if the descendants of Sir Richard preferred to put his portrait as they best knew it on his monument, I cannot see they were to blame. But the bust is too high to do itself justice, the view from below being largely double chin; the higher one can get the grander it appears. Its position also prevents close examination, such as might disclose the sculptor's name. I am inclined to attribute it to J. M. Rysbrack, a Fleming, who came to England about 1720, and lived here till his death. Of his powers, the Newton, Milton and Ben Jonson in the Abbey are proof enough.

Sarah, Sir Richard's daughter, died before him in 1695, and I have no sculptor's name for the unsigned monument

which commemorates her on the same wall. It consists of two cherubs supporting a large urn out of which come gilt flames—plain coarse work of no particular distinction. But the urn was the symbol of mortality, fire and the cherub of the immortality which the mortality is to put on; however little we think it, this ugly monument is full of the profoundest symbolism. The older and English type of mortality was the skeleton or the sitting body or *cadaver*; these gentler symbols came from Italy in the sixteenth century, and if they are classical in origin, they are at once humaner and, I dare to say, more Christian.

We must go for a moment to the south aisle and glance at the tablet of Sir Rd. Newdigate of 1728, for it is signed *Stanton Fecit*, and is a model of the modest and dignified mural tablet of the period. The Stantons were a remarkable family of sculptors. The first we know of made the monument of Shakespeare's neighbours the Combes at Stratford-on-Avon in 1649; his son Thomas made an extraordinary number of such monuments all over England—I have seen them from Worcester to Kent; and his grandson Edward, the Stanton of this monument, carried on the same tradition of good proportion, fine lettering and competent marble-cutting. The twisted pillars at the sides have an interesting ancestry. In the second Chapel on the right as you enter St. Peter's is a low-twisted column which the archæologist can recognise as Syrian in type and which is said to have come from Jerusalem. Raphael makes it the model for the Temple pillars in his cartoon of Peter and John at the Beautiful Gate, and the type was widely used in the West. The most conspicuous English example is the south Porch of St. Mary's, Oxford, and the motive thus used by Stanton early in the eighteenth century has thus a wonderful history behind it.

Before turning to the south side of the chancel, we will do well to return to the nave and look up at the magnificent bust of William Ashby (ob. 1760). He wears his own hair, a coat and a cravat, and certain technical details, though the work is too high up for any signature to be accessible, make it probable that it is by no less an artist than Roubiliac. Upon the pedestal are inscribed four lines of verse:—

"Diffusive as the light his bounty spread,
Cloth'd the naked, and the hungry fed;
Such worth gives immortality to clay,
Treasure which neither moth nor rust decay."

Below is a remarkable tablet with an inscription on a white marble scroll and to right and left, set off by the black marble of the background, two ash sprays in relief, marvellously realistic; below the letters B Y to right and left of a coat of arms—Ashby, a punning motto, a thing of great rarity at so late a date.

[To be continued.]

Victoria and Albert Museum.

Glass from Wells Cathedral.

The overhauling of the stained glass at Wells Cathedral has given an opportunity for exhibiting in London for a short period, two representative specimens of the glass which have been lent for the purpose to the Victoria and Albert Museum by the Dean and Chapter. These are a panel with a figure of a trumpeting angel, which must at one time have formed part of a "Last Judgment," from the Lady Chapel, and a roundel of grisaille glass from the tracery of one of the windows on the Chapter House staircase. Both are good examples of English glass-painting of the first half of the fourteenth century. They will remain on view for a few weeks in Room 110 on the first floor of the Museum.

Concrete Parthenon.

A full-size copy of the famous Parthenon at Athens has been built in concrete at Nashville, U.S.A. All the sculptured reliefs and bas-reliefs have been reproduced in this material, which was coloured in order to obtain the exact tint of the Greek original. The new Parthenon will be used as a museum and art gallery.

Housing in the City of Edinburgh.

A report made by the City Chamberlain on the housing problem in the City of Edinburgh, now being widely discussed in Scotland, deserves careful study by all students of housing. The City Chamberlain, Mr. Robert Paton, is the chief financial official of the Council. On the instructions of his Housing Committee, he has been recently conducting an investigation as to the reasons for the present housing shortage, the extent of the lack of houses, and of overcrowding, and has given his opinion as to the policy to be adopted by the Corporation.

An examination of the available statistics leads him to decide that, instead of there being an increased demand for houses, there ought to have been after the War, a decreased demand! The total population was stationary in Edinburgh, but owing to the increase in the "married," there had been an increase in the demand estimated at 5,000. Also the general rise of wages and the standard of living up to 1920 increased the demand for separate houses.

The City Chamberlain analysed the applications of all those who applied for Corporation houses, and he found that these were mainly persons engaged in sheltered occupations where the full force of competition was not felt. Road, water and railway transport workers, whose wages are notoriously excessive as compared with those given to skilled engineers, were responsible for 17·7 of the applications in Edinburgh. Persons who received wages and salaries out of public funds and are engaged in civil and municipal administration were responsible for 14 per cent. of the applications as against a working male population of 5·5 per cent.

The conclusion arrived at is that, were those who are in "sheltered" trades earning wages at the same rates as those who are not so protected, the demand for houses would be vastly increased. The City Chamberlain considers in fact, that, as the purchasing power of the population increases or decreases, so the demand for houses varies correspondingly.

He advises, therefore, his Council that the present demand, if economic considerations are to hold the field, may only be temporary, and he takes the view that the time may have arrived for schemes for the provision of new houses to be undertaken with caution.

A most significant part of his report, is his strong emphasis on the fact that the shortage of houses must not be confused with overcrowding. He considers that the Council should press on towards substituting houses for the 6,000 in Edinburgh which have been condemned as uninhabitable. "The present conditions in these areas present a far greater social and moral evil than the non-existence of houses for 2,000 applicants who, in the main, have been married within the last two or three years."

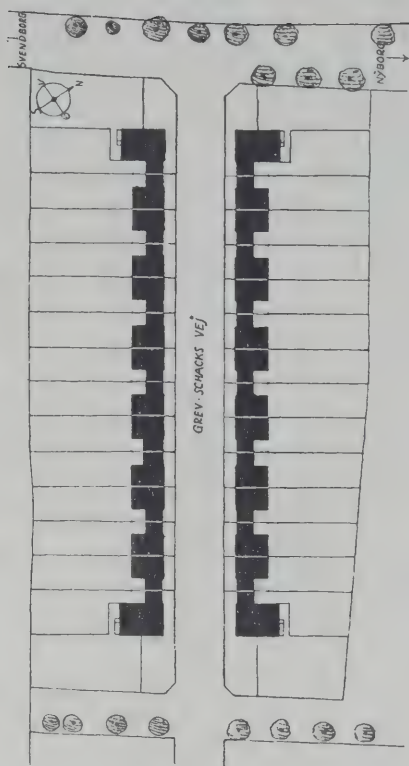
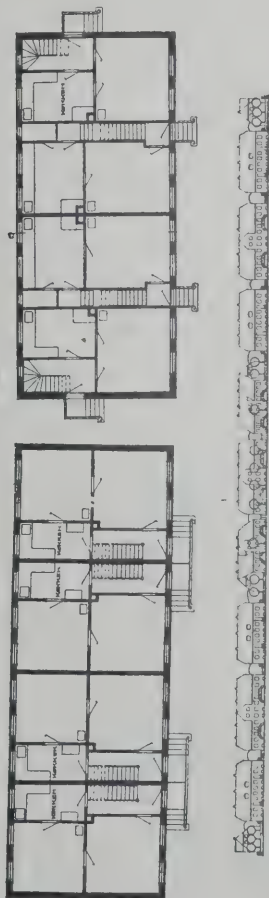
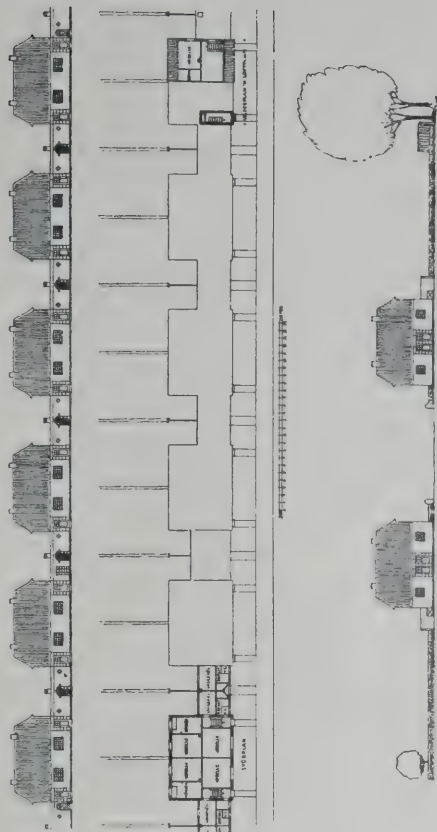
For the needs of the newly married, he considers that private enterprise provide, and gives figures to show that the number of houses built or being built by private contractors is continuously accelerated. For the City to build new houses to be occupied by those who can afford to go to the private builder, is, in his opinion, the wrong policy, as, in that case, the Corporation would enter the market for housing labour and material in such a way as to raise the market.

But for providing accommodation for persons displaced by slum clearances, he urges the adoption of such alternative methods of house construction as involve the utilisation of a greater percentage of unskilled labour than does the normal method.

Finally, he advises the Corporation not to swamp the administration "with a large number of jerry-built houses, but to make a steady and systematic effort to deal with the slum problem." Ways of doing this are, this autumn, being considered by the City of Edinburgh.

B. S. TOWNROE.

WANSTEAD.—Arrangements are being made by the Essex Education Committee for erecting the first portion of the Wanstead County high school, the cost being computed at £38,000.



BEOELSES, BYGNINGER. ANDREAS JENSEN, Architect.
DANISH HOUSING SCHEMES.

BELOELSESHUSE HORSSENS. V. NORN, Architect.
CONTINENTAL CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE.

From "Architekten," Denmark.

Correspondence.

Hollow Floors and Roofs, London Building Acts (Amendment) Act, 1905. First Schedule.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

SIR,—With reference to Mr. G. Topham Forest's letter appearing in this journal upon October 23, 1925, with reference to a resolution passed by the London County Council upon June 23, 1925, with reference to hollow floors and roofs, I should like to make the following comments:—

The position of all reinforced concrete floors (solid and hollow alike) prior to the publication of regulations passed by the London County Council upon June 23, 1925, was:—

That concrete floors, both of solid and hollow construction, were not governed by the L.C.C. Reinforced Concrete Regulations except in reinforced concrete framed structures.

That in all buildings which were required under any of the new Building Acts to have "fire resisting" floors, the first Schedule of the London Building Act (Amendment) Act, 1905—section 4 sub-section (a) laid down that brick, tile, terra-cotta, or concrete composed of broken brick, tile, stone chippings, ballast pumice or coke breeze and lime cement or calcined gypsum not less than 5 inches thick in combination with iron or steel would fulfil this requirement.

That in certain cases, however, of buildings in which the cubic capacity exceeded 250,000 cubic feet, the L.C.C. had the power to increase the thickness of 5 inches of fire-resisting materials forming floors.

The 5 inch rule was interpreted differently by the various District Surveyors, and it became usual to submit designs to the L.C.C. for approval, showing the nature of the construction that was proposed, floors generally being approved under the Council's discretionary powers, if in the case of floors in which blocks are incorporated that 1 inch of concrete was laid over the top surface of the block, and in those constructed entirely of concrete that the thickness of fire-resisting materials over the void was not less than 2 inches.

The new regulations appear to be applicable only to floors in which hollow blocks composed of burnt clay are incorporated or in which complete pre-cast hollow concrete beams are used.

Condition (iii) of the new regulations, it is laid down that "all concrete which is less than 2 inches thick at any part and all concrete for hollow brick floors, shall be fine concrete mixed in the proportions of at least one volume of Portland cement to three volumes of aggregate, composed of clean, silicious sand and broken flint of such sizes as will pass through a mesh $\frac{3}{8}$ inch square measured in the clear."

The new regulations call for a concrete containing a greater proportion of cement than has been standard practice which was to use concrete mixed in the following proportion:—One volume of cement, two volumes of sand, and four volumes of coarse aggregate commonly known as a 6 to 1 mix.

The increase in the quantity of cement does not seem at all necessary as there is little or no advantage to be gained from a fire-resisting point of view, nor does the permissible increase in safe working stress upon the richer concrete compensate for the extra cost of cement.

It should be noted, however, that a 3 to 1 mix requires one volume of cement to three volumes of a fully graded aggregate, and in practice will be found to approximate one volume of cement, one and a half volumes of sand and three volumes of coarse aggregate, and might be termed in the building trade parlance, a $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 mix. It has been suggested that double the usual quantity of cement is required for concrete in hollow floors carried out under the new regulations, but this is not the case.

Regulation (v) states "that in the case of hollow block floors the ends of the blocks shall be solidly jointed with cement mortar in the proportions of one volume of Portland cement to two volumes of clean sharp sand."

It is unfortunate that the composition of the mortar required for "jointing" the blocks is definitely specified, as in the writer's opinion, this "jointing" can only be executed by bricklayers, and the employment of this form of skilled labour should not be encouraged owing to the present difficulty in obtaining sufficient men for both housing and brickwork proper in commercial buildings.

It has recently been demonstrated upon a flooring contract carried out under the supervision of the writer that a more satisfactory seal between ends of burnt clay blocks which fulfils the true intention of this regulation, can be obtained by the employment of unskilled labour, but that the prescribed mixture of mortar cannot be used and, therefore, would not be accepted by the District Surveyors unless special permission is obtained from the Council.

There is appreciable difficulty in making a solid joint between burnt clay blocks owing to their porosity and their small area of contact, blocks having to be thoroughly soaked in water to ensure there being sufficient moisture present to hydrate the cement, and unless the greatest care and supervision is given to the jointing, difficulties may occur with the District Surveyors when timber framework is removed and soffites of floors can be inspected, the District Surveyors can only judge the efficiency of the joints at this later stage.

Regulation (x) "that the sides and undersides of the steel beams and girders shall be protected from the action of fire by fine concrete at least 2 inches thick, rodded and rammed, of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick trowelled round suitable mesh reinforcement, and that in all cases the concrete shall be bedded solidly against the steel and there shall be no intervening vacuity."

In the case of concrete rodded and rammed it will be noted that a minimum of 2 inches is required, exclusive of any plaster work, which was permitted to form part of the 2 inch of encasing required by section 22 sub-section 4 of the 1909 Building Act, further it should be noted that mesh reinforcement is not mentioned when concrete is cast *in situ*, but that rod reinforcement is apparently required.

The writer is of the opinion that wire netting should not be used although its adoption is almost general, as it is difficult to ensure that the concrete is not restrained by the mesh from freely passing under the steel beam, thereby leaving a cavity between exposed surface of concrete and the soffit of the steel beam.

It is, of course, acknowledged that there was urgent need for revision of the old 5 inch rule, but it is unfortunate that the new regulations apply only to the most modern and widely used forms of hollow floor construction, embodying sound scientific and practical principles, and yet it is still permissible to use coke breeze in conjunction with steel.

These regulations further demonstrate the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of devising a set of rules that can equitably be applied to the several well-known types of hollow floors now on the market. They have already resulted in confusion and unfairness and must lead to quite justifiable complaints from many quarters on account of the increase in cost of all forms of construction coming under its scope, and the unfair position in which they are placed in competition with types that escape. It is in effect placing a premium on inferior work—knowing that the London County Council and its superintending architect, Mr. G. Topham Forrest, are sympathetic to all modern forms of construction they will appreciate the position created and solve the problem by a broad policy expressed by regulations governing all forms of reinforced concrete floor construction, both solid and hollow alike. Such regulations not to be of such detailed nature, but to safeguard the Council's standards of strength and fire resistance.—Yours, etc.

L. A. WHITE.

9 Victoria Street, Westminster.
November 23, 1925.

Waterloo Bridge.*To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.*

SIR,—The Waterloo Bridge controversy would be simplified by a more general recognition of unexpected liability to error. When any course is proved mistaken, its advocates, however responsible, should admit as much. I am a nonentity, but rate my prospects as high as any celebrity concerned values his reputation. So sincerely and dutifully do I plan that, if my underblocking methods could be applied, I would stake my life and exceptional ultimate ideals anywhere at any time under any pier. More, I would undertake to keep traffic going fully, and so prove superfluous the temporary bridge. Could anything influence the L.C.C. to admit an initial mistake on such a scale?

Early in August 1924, with important ideas in reserve, I urged upon the Chief Engineer a reconsideration of the decision for a temporary bridge. Early in October, having meanwhile worked on its foundations, and extended a practical acquaintance with the propped arches alongside, I called upon the Deputy Chief Engineer, who had replied contemptuously to my first letter, and ignored the second. As courteously as possible, I requested a chance to collaborate officially. Events may influence the Chief Engineer to admit that a serious mistake was made when I was ordered out of the office, impotently declaring that I would be heard at the last.

When, after five months abroad, deprived of practically all news, I published in your columns a tentative scheme, I hoped for comment and collaboration towards something better. The widening I proposed conflicted with architectural purpose, and there was not even comment. No direct pressure was needed to convince me that I must work along different lines. By July I had evolved what I believe is the nearest solution of the whole problem. Apparent necessity for widening had disappeared, and a much simplified and much more effective method of underblocking had been devised. Nearly double the present traffic capacity had been planned with none but a trifling modification of the façade. An impartial capable professional investigation should convince the Chief Engineer that his prolonged, and especially recent, obstruction of my case has been unusually mistaken.

Space limitations debar my disclosing serious official irregularities. Through the existence of these I would emphasise the Deputy Chief Engineer's cynical statements of October 1924. Although I had claimed that, after battling almost throughout the war for recognition in munitions design, I had been offered a commission for munitions research as a result of one week's work in the last three weeks, I was told that there was nothing in my letter. The rest was as unexpected as its restatement may be: "Whatever you contemplate has almost certainly been considered by the experts. If you care to submit your ideas, they will be read but almost certainly rejected." I am not ashamed to record that in July 1924, I had considered and *rejected* all the three of four of Sir Edwin Lutyen's suspension schemes.

The letter in which there was "nothing" had contained, in addition to a good deal which doubtless rankled: "It is not contended that the offered plan would be free from this reproach (bastardised architecture), but it is submitted that there would be no less occasion for criticism than in any likely alternative. The dominating idea is not veneration of antiquity, but respect for ancestral merit plus the most effective use of immediate resources—a legitimate blending of past and present standards such as necessarily characterises history." Traffic history is being made by the continual monthly accession of thousands of low light motors. About Waterloo Bridge there are features which favour separate facilities for these. At street intersections cross-congestion needs relief in a similar manner. These problems are beyond the Chief Engineer, however painstaking in an unimaginative, ungenerous way, but they intrude violently upon the whole Waterloo Bridge problem. So also does the necessity for approaching it in a sort of geological way, and this is equally beyond the grasp of the

Chief Engineer, and therefore beyond the scope of the Special Bridges Committee which he has advised.

It should not have been beyond the intelligence of the authors of the Report of the Conference of Societies that their main conclusion was vitiated by their claim of close resemblance between the cases of the Tyne High-level Bridge (on rock) and of Waterloo Bridge (on clay). Nothing more than Mr. Dalrymple Hay's recent utterance *re* ample depth and spread of new foundations is necessary to prove how crude was his first scheme, and how feeble his later defence of it. He did not originate anything worth while about underpinning; neither he nor any of his colleagues seems able to attack underblocking commensurately. No mere well-meaning sentimentalist can help at all, but each is almost bound to hinder by a display of ineffectiveness. As I suggested last March, an open competition for ideas should be adjudged by an accessible public Committee of Architectural, Engineering and Traffic men of disciplined imagination and unimpulsive action, free from traditional inertia, artistic touchiness, professional prejudice, expert insistence on commitments, and official fear of failure.—Yours truly,

J. J. SNELLMAN.

Foreign Cement for Public Works.

A complaint that British local authorities are using foreign cement on public works, notwithstanding the Prime Minister's appeal for the support of home industries, was made by Brig.-General A. C. Critchley, Vice-President of the British Portland Cement Association, in an after-dinner speech to cement salesmen at the Café Royal, London, last week.

"Mr. Baldwin's suggestion was received most sympathetically by individual traders," he said, "but I am amazed to find that official bodies in different parts of the country are indulging in a wholesale patronage of foreign goods at the expense of the home made article. I might instance two councils which have each used quantities of foreign cement because the rate of exchange made the initial cost a little cheaper. These councils could never have thought of the resultant increase of unemployment in this country, and the extra amount thus unnecessarily spent on the dole. During the ten months ended October 31 last, Great Britain imported 181,298 tons of foreign cement, and by the end of the year, the total will probably be more than 200,000 tons. Apart from the actual cash paid to the foreigner, the transaction has affected British industrial life in various other directions. The manufacture of this amount of cement would have meant orders of 100,000 tons of coal for our collieries. Regarded in terms of employment, every ton of cement ordered from abroad means a loss to British labour in connection with the quarrying, manufacture and distribution of the cement, and the making of sacks and casks and the hundred and one other requirements of the industry."

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

NOVEMBER 27, 1875.

ARUNDEL CASTLE.

It is found that the ivy which has so thickly clothed this fine old Norman keep has been eating so firmly into the work as to threaten destruction, and workmen are now employed in extracting the roots from the mortar, and in other ways restoring the walls, or rather rescuing them from destruction. This is being done with studious care, and the Duke of Norfolk personally visits the work to see that no desecration is committed. The mortar used in the old building was not of a very substantial nature, and were it not for this timely interference the wall might have gradually crumbled away. The broken edges of the ruin are being closed up with stone and cement to prevent the penetration of the rain, and although much of the rugged picturesqueness is destroyed by the process of stripping the ivy and rounding off the top edges, it is a work of necessity, and one which need not alarm archaeologists. The scaffold poles have been for many weeks around the building, and the work is being done gradually and carefully. None of the architectural features of the keep will be destroyed. Soon after the Conquest many material additions were made to strengthen it as a fortress, and the building, which is circular in form and of tolerably large extent, may be said to be almost entirely Norman, being erected on the Saxon foundations by Roger Montgomery, the first Earl of Arundel, and a kinsman of the Conqueror. Considerable additions were made to the fortress in the fourteenth century by Richard, Earl of Arundel; but the original Saxon foundation and Norman superstructure remain intact; and it is with a view of preserving these that the present restoration is designed.

Public Works, Road and Transport Congress and Exhibition, Royal Agricultural Hall.

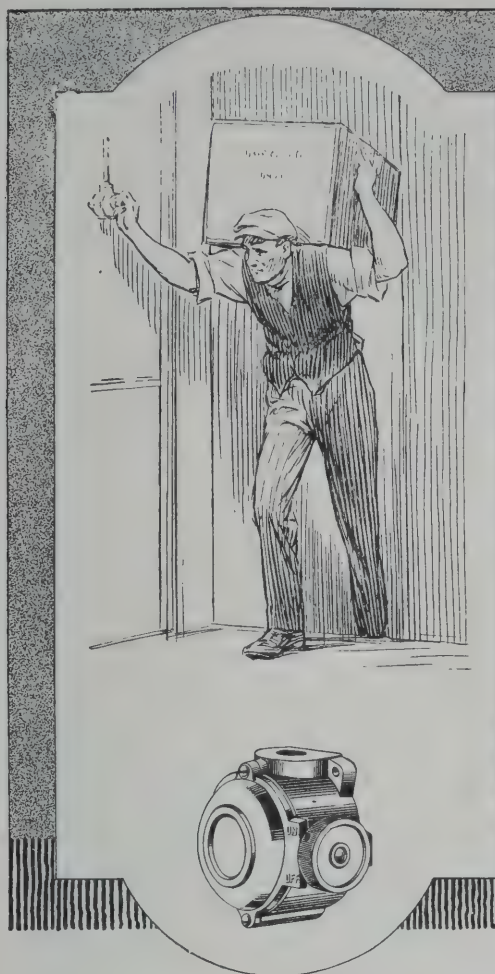
This Exhibition undoubtedly served many useful purposes. To-day road construction plays a very important part in our industrial life. Many of the stands demonstrated the radical changes that have been introduced in the correct construction of our road arteries. Many mechanical devices have been invented and special systems introduced that achieve the dual purpose of providing roads constructionally sound and lasting with surfaces that nearly approach perfection and effecting saving in the cost of labour with a great reduction in the time required for carrying out the work. Many exhibitors added interest to their displays by showing features of interest to the building industry.

Amongst many interesting stands some naturally attracted more attention than others, though any preference depended on the individual interests of the visitors. Messrs. Ransome Machinery Co. (1920) Ltd., occupied Stand No. 1, and showed a number of different concrete mixers. Messrs. The Liner Concrete Machinery Co. were displaying on Stand 3a the "A" type Liner patent concrete stone moulding machine; the same is suitable for the production of flags, channels, fence posts, sewerage blocks, etc. Nos. 2 and 3 pattern machines constructed by this company, with other interesting exhibits, were also to be inspected on the stand. Messrs. William E. Farrer, Ltd., of Birmingham, exhibited the Farrer's patent "Facile" rotary sewage distributor, with all the latest refinements for effective working. Farrer's distributing plant for small sewage schemes of every description attracted considerable interest on Stand No. 9. Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire, displayed on Stand 10 many products of interest, the P.84 grade silicate, so suitable for case-hardening concrete roads, floors and slabs, being of special attraction to many authorities and individual visitors. Messrs. The British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Manchester, displayed in an effective manner by means of enlarged photographs their road work in which B.R.C. Fabric has been used. Messrs. The Phoenix Engineering Co., Ltd., Chard, Somerset, exhibited on Stand No. 13 a number of their patent spraying machines, including the Phoenix patent Extra Rapid quick heating bitumen sprayer, capacity 160 gallons. Phoenix road drying and patching outfit, "Phoenix Rapid" patent continuous heating hand tar spraying machine, "Phoenix Rapid" vertical tar and pitch boiler of 50 gallons capacity, etc. On Stand No. 24 Messrs. Bryant & Langford, Group of Quarries, Bristol, exhibited a number of examples from their different associated firms. The Black Rock Quarries, Ltd., displayed Black Rock dry and tarred macadam and chippings; the Tresarrett Quarry Co., Ltd., contributed Cornish Elvan dry and tarred macadam and chippings; the Penderyn Limestone Quarries (Hirwain), Ltd., Penderyn limestone for various purposes; the Winterbourne Quarries, Ltd.; Stoneycombe Lime and Stone Co., Ltd.; Messrs. Bryant & Langford (Malvern), Ltd.; and Penlee Quarries, Ltd., also exhibited on this stand.

Stand No. 30 was occupied by Messrs. John Fowler & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., Steam Plough and Locomotive Works, Leeds. This firm displayed a fine range of patents for which they have gained a world-wide reputation. Fowler patent compound road spraying and re-surfacing plant complete with gritting machine was to be seen. This plant performs the following operations:—Tar spraying, gritting and rolling at one operation; the even distribution of tar or bituminous compound and grit is also provided for and guaranteed. Fowler 3-tyne scarifier (Jackson's patent), Fowler patent 6-7 ton three-way tipping steam wagon, and Fowler standard 10-7 concrete mixer figured amongst many other exhibits. Messrs. Tuke & Bell, Ltd., Lichfield, Staffs, displayed on Stand No. 33 a number of patents of a varied character, including a petrol motor lorry for general haulage work having 1-ton capacity and fitted with an end-tipping body operated by a patent gravity hand-tipping gear; a street sweeping attachment suitable for use behind motor vehicles to sweep 6 feet wide, brush 14 inches diameter, in sections; also 70 gallon sprinkler tank fitted to minimise dust disturbances. Some manhole covers and frames were also shown in a display that was of a highly interesting character. Messrs. Cooke, Troughton & Simms, Ltd., York, displayed on Stand No. 39 a wide range of instruments used in connection with all kinds of road work and surveying. Messrs. The Sussex Brick and Estates Co., Ltd., Horsham, arranged their Stand No. 40 so as to give an effective display of their many fine qualities of bricks, of which the Southwater Engineering or sewer bricks, Southwater pressed facings, S.B.E.C. hand-made kiln stocks, S.B.E.C. hand-made flared red, Tonbridge reds and multi-coloured facings were the most outstanding. Messrs.

Stewart & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow, display in a fine array their different steel tubes on Stand No. 45.

Messrs. Neuchatel Asphalte Co., Ltd., London. This firm exhibited samples of asphalte suitable for all types of road work. Some interesting photographs of contracts executed in the United Kingdom completed an effective display on Stand No. 47. Messrs. Ingersoll-Rand Co., Ltd., London, displayed a wonderful range of engineering equipment. Messrs. The Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalte Co., Ltd., 34 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, made a fine effort to interest the visitors. Daily exhibitions of cinematograph films showing the Trinidad Lake Asphalte industry, the manufacture and application of mastic asphalte, also the preparation and laying of compressible rock asphalt were shown. The company's Stand No. 51 displayed some beautiful photographs illustrating roads which have been created in the best sense of the word by the company's work upon them. Messrs. Brookes, Ltd., Halifax, exhibited only small samples of their productions in connection with roadways and footways, specimens of granite from their English, Welsh, Scotch, Channel Islands and Scandinavian quarries showing their productions of setts, macadam and chippings and architectural granite. Samples of their glazed brick and fireclay productions, artificial stone, mosaics, terrazzo, jointless flooring, etc., were also displayed in an effectively arranged style. Messrs. Millars' Machinery Co., Ltd., London, E.C.2, exhibited on Stand No. 63 Millars' 8-ton standard portable asphalte plant, Millars' 4L "Jäger" concrete mixer, Millars' tractor, Millars' concrete cart, and Millars' single diaphragm pump. Messrs. Colas Products, Ltd., 38-39 Parliament Street, London, S.W.1, arranged a very interesting exhibit. Some graphic designs demonstrated the urgent need for resurfacing roads as effectively as possible with the least possible public inconvenience. The scenic effect created at the back of the stand to prove that their cold bituminous emulsions are non-poisonous was very convincing. Messrs. The Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., York Mansion, Petty France, S.W.1, displayed on their Stand No. 67 samples of the company's various products in combination with some photographs of some of the more important municipal works carried out on its systems, "Examet" RR reinforcements for concrete roads, etc., "Examet" expanded steel sheet reinforcement for concrete, which has been used for a great many years for foundations, floors, roofs, bridges, culverts, etc.; "Examet" and "BB" lathings for plaster work; "Exmet" reinforcement for brickwork, concrete blockwork, etc. "Examet" Treble-Layer Reinforcement. Messrs. The British Steel Piling Co., Ltd., London, showed on their Stand No. 68 their "Wonder" Tilting Drum Concrete Mixer mounted on road wheels. Another exhibited was the "Wonder" pattern, augmented with power loader and automatic water tank. Messrs. Winget (1924), Ltd., Westminster, S.W.1, showed a characteristic display of this firm's machinery. Messrs. Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough, Stand No. 74, did justice to the reputation they have created as road specialists, the photographs showing their work in connection with the Great West Road were specially good. Messrs. Clee Hill Granite Co., Ltd., Salop: Many good photographs illustrating work executed by the company were the main feature of this company's exhibit. Clee Hill granite is too well known amongst road specialists to need any special reference here. "Cleotar" is the registered title of the stone coated with tar and bituminous products; the firm's activities in this direction have been signalled with one long succession of successes. Messrs. The Croft Granite, Brick and Concrete Co., Ltd., Croft, near Leicester, displayed Croftmac Tarviated Leicestershire granite, Leicestershire broken granite chippings, Leicestershire granite kerbs and setts, and many other special items connected with Croft Adamant granite concrete. Messrs. Girlings Ferro-Concrete Co., Ltd., Leeds and Northfleet, Kent, exhibited on Stand 94 some interesting features: cast stone, kerbing and paving flags, electric cable covers, fireproof holocaust flooring, concrete manholes, doorhood and brackets, window sills, boundary posts, etc., etc. Messrs. Buckland, Sand & Silica Co., Ltd., Betchworth, Surrey, exhibited on Stand 98 a number of samples of sand; the quality and colour of these samples was very remarkable. The samples had not been washed or treated in any way. Some artificial stone blocks were also to be seen on the stand which had been made with the sand, in combination with cement, etc., and their appearance as an artistic building material was very promising. Messrs. William Shepherd & Sons, Ltd., Rochdale, are well known for their asphaltic slag for roads, asphaltic limestone for footways, playgrounds, garage and warehouse floors. Samples of these and many other



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materials were displayed on their stand. Messrs. Tangyes, Ltd., Cornwall Works, Birmingham, Stand No. 108. On this stand the exhibitors had arranged a number of oil and petrol engines, together with a large variety of pumps for which the firm is acquiring an ever increasing reputation for first-class quality and service. Messrs. The Waterex Co., Ltd., London, exhibited "Waterex" waterproofed brick and concrete walls with water running down the surface to demonstrate the waterproofing qualities of "Waterex," water oil-proofed tanks made of breeze slabs, and insulating cork slabs coated with a waterproofed rendering.

On Stand No. 125, in the Gilbey Hall, Messrs. Paterson Engineering Co., Ltd., Windsor House, Kingsway, W.C.2, exhibited Paterson's mechanical filtration plant. Photographs and coloured drawings of gravity filters as adopted by the Metropolitan Water Board, South Staffordshire Waterworks Co., Rand Water Board, City of Reval, Sheffield Corporation, and numerous other authorities. A very interesting feature of this exhibit was in connection with a bath water purification plant. A coloured diagrammatic drawing of bath water purification plant was shown, illustrating the arrangement of a Paterson swimming bath water purification plant which provides for a continuous circulation of the water and the retention of coarse floating matter in a metal strainer. The water is treated with chemical reagents to effect coagulation of the colloidal impurities and to mordant the colour, after which it is passed through Paterson pressure type air-cleansed filters to remove the coagulated impurities and suspended matter. The effluent from the filters is passed through an enclosed aerator to keep it in a fresh and sparkling condition, after which chlorine gas is applied by the Paterson Chloronome to effect the removal of bacteria. The purified water then flows through a calorifier on its return to the swimming bath.

Messrs. British Portland Cement Association, Ltd., 20 Dartmouth Street, Westminster, S.W.1, Stand No. 126, exhibited the utility of concrete for municipal purposes, a section of an all-concrete road with expansion joint and white lines; paving, kerbing and channels; treeguard culvert catchpit and direction and mile posts, was also shown. Examples of concrete representing various natural stones were also displayed. Messrs. W. H. Gaze & Sons, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames, exhibited Gaze's All-Weather Court, which attracted the attention of many tennis players, and also those interested in the game from a spectator's point of view.

Messrs. Lafarge Aluminous Cement Co., Ltd., Lincoln House, 296-302 High Holborn, W.C.1, exhibited on Stand No. 134, Ciment Fondu (British manufactured), the indecomposable cement of high-alumina content. Its well-known qualities include high initial resistance at 24 hours, and complete immunity from attack by sea-water and sulphur-impregnated waters and earths. The exhibit demonstrated the application of Ciment Fondu as a binder for macadam road surfaces. Descriptive data and tests were also shown demonstrating its general use for all forms of structural engineering work.

The New Houses from the Housewife's Point of View.

Much has been written about housing—the shortage, the increased costs or the difficulties in the building industry, but few people seem to have looked at the problem from the housewife's point of view. An inspection of the new model houses, which are appearing everywhere, reveals that while considerable thought has been given to economies in space and in materials used, little attention has been paid to the convenience of the wage-earner's wife.

It seems clear that a good many types of cottages will never house a worker's family at all, and indeed most of the demonstration houses erected at Wembley were lavishly furnished as week-end residences by some well known firms wishing for advertisement. It may be desirable that people should get into the country for two days in the week, but as long as so many families are living three or four in one house, it hardly seems fair that the new cottages should be used by people who already have other accommodation. A reminder is not untimely that the present house famine is felt most acutely by the poorest sections of the community, and it is towards relieving the overcrowding among ordinary wage-earners that new building schemes should be directed.

With this end in view, there are several considerations which might be given more prominence by local authorities and others who are constructing houses for the workers. In the first place, the arrangement of rooms is often unsatisfactory. In many of the new cottages, whether of steel or of brick, the kitchen and parlour have been replaced by a good sized living room and a

small scullery where the cooking is done. This is quite a sound scheme provided that the living room is reasonably large and well lighted, and that it is not also the only passage leading from the scullery to the front door or to the stairs. In the Cathcart type of Weir house, for instance, there are three doors in the living room, two of them on either side of the fire place, round which it is, therefore, not possible to sit. The dresser here, too, is unfortunately placed, as it is on the same side of the room as the fire. Not only do a number of doors render the living room uncomfortable, but the housewife finds it very inconvenient to carry dust, pails, etc., from the upper rooms through the living room.

Another aspect which is sometimes neglected in the new houses is the number and size of the windows. In many cases the windows are small and do not reach to the level of the ceiling. Owing to the conditions on which the subsidy is given, the ceilings are kept very low in order that the cubic capacity of the house may come within the prescribed limits. It is very important here that the window, if it must be small, should reach as high up the wall as possible; otherwise the rooms never receive enough light, nor is there adequate ventilation.

But from the working woman's point of view, the main considerations in the new home are the stove, the hot water supply, placement of the sink, larder, coal-box, etc. Often the sink, where the woman is going to stand for hours on end, is in a direct draught, or fixed too high for convenience, and the provision of drainers is frequently inadequate. In one house visited, the larder opened right on to the gas cooker, thus making it impossible to keep things cool when the cooker was in use. Again, the coal-box is sometimes placed so that when it is filled, the dust must be blown all over the room from the door. There are seldom enough shelves or cupboards, either upstairs or down, and as these make so much difference to the housewife, it seems worth while trying to bring this point home to those who are designing the new houses.

With regard to stoves and hot water supply, many experiments have been made and there is no lack of variety, but it is difficult to find any one system which is both economical and efficient. The gas cooker, which is popular because it saves both time and labour, is not in itself an extravagant method of cooking. All the food for a large family can be cooked by gas for the weekly cost of from one to two cwt. of coal, while there are few kitchen ranges which would do the same amount of cooking for less than three or four cwt. of coal. One London borough has tried the experiment of fitting its new Council houses with sitting room grates in the living room instead of the usual kitchen. Hot water is supplied by a boiler behind this grate, and these houses have a gas cooker in the scullery. All the tenants with sitting room grates appear to find it a satisfactory arrangement, while the majority of those who have kitcheners dislike them. The most efficient method of heating water is by an independent boiler. There are boilers now on the market which will supply all the hot water required for an average family as well as several hot baths each day, for one cwt. of coal a week, and at the same time they will consume the household rubbish. It is greatly to be hoped that in the new houses, the kitchen range which is dirty, extravagant and inefficient, will be replaced by the gas cooker. But since few working people can afford a separate fire in the living room during the winter, it will probably be found best to provide a sitting room grate which serves both to heat the room, and to supply hot water, and to instal a gas cooker in the scullery.

"A History of English Brickwork."

In our issue of November 13, 1925, the first page is occupied by an illustration of the Unitarian Chapel, Bury St. Edmunds. This illustration forms one of the splendid collection of examples included in the book reviewed on the following page of the same issue. It might have been more definitely associated with the review and we regret the omission. Further, the American publisher's name has been spelt wrongly, though very few will have been misled. William Helburn's name has been so closely associated with architectural fine art publications.

In our issue of November 20, on page 370, we gave a view of the "Porch of the Church of St. John the Baptist, Pebmarsh, Essex," and referred to the source of origin as from "English Brick-building." This fine illustration was held over from the week before and should have been included in our review of "A History of English Brickwork."

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General News.

BLACKHALL.—Final plans are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Blackhall Colliery.

BRANDON.—A larger site is to be acquired at Brandon Colliery by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school.

CITY OF LONDON.—In connection with the proposal for the reconstruction of the Guildhall art gallery, the Libraries Committee of the City Corporation suggest that the scheme should be considered in regard to the whole subject of the advancement of art within the city.—The ground floor of 23 Long Lane, Smithfield, is to be converted into a sale room by Messrs. Armour & Co., Ltd.—Rebuilding schemes are proposed at 5 and 6 Bury Street and at 13 Widegate Street.—The L.C.C. are to contribute £73,000 towards the scheme for widening Houndsditch.—The improvement at 7, 8 and 9 Leadenhall Street is now to be proceeded with.—In connection with the rebuilding of the Bank of England the Improvements Committee recommend that the Traffic Advisory Committee be approached in reference to the proposal for widening Princess Street.

DOWNHAM.—Another school is to be provided on the Downham estate by the L.C.C. Education Committee. Accommodation is to be provided for about 2,300 children.

FONTLEY HILL.—The Fontley Brick and Tile Co., Ltd., propose to erect 14 houses at Fontley Hill for their employees.

FULHAM.—The L.C.C. Education Committee have decided to remodel the Everington Street school, Fulham, the estimated cost being £21,000.

HIGH SPEN.—Durham County Education Committee have prepared plans for remodelling the High Spen elementary school.

HULL.—Messrs. Hewitt Bros., Ltd., are to rebuild 18 and 19 Little Lane, Blackfriargate.—The City Architect has prepared plans for two all-electric houses to be erected on the Cottingham Road estate.—Improvements are to be carried out at Ferens boating lake at a cost of £1,700.—An amended scheme has been prepared for the provision of electric washing machines at St. Paul's washhouses at a cost of £4,900.

ISLINGTON.—An elementary school for 600 children is to be erected by the L.C.C. Education Committee in Twyford Street, Islington, at a cost of £25,000.—Plans have been passed for a Roman Catholic school to be erected in Copenhagen Street, Islington.

LUDWORTH.—Plans are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Ludworth.

MARSDEN.—Additional land is to be acquired by the Durham County Education Committee for the site of the proposed elementary school at Marsden as some of the land of the site has been scheduled for road widening.

MILLWALL.—The Port of London Authority have further reviewed the scheme for the improvement of the India and Millwall docks and an amended proposal is now under consideration, to cost £1,030,000, for the provision of a new entrance lock, etc.

NEVENDON.—Plans have been prepared by the Essex Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school at Nevendon at a cost of about £8,000, accommodation being provided for 220 children.

NEWFIELD.—A site at Newfield has been acquired by the Durham County Education Committee for the erection of an elementary school.

NEWHAVEN.—East Sussex C.C. have passed a scheme for widening the Newhaven-Rottingdean road at a cost of £160,000.

NORTHWICH.—The R.D.C. have acquired a site for the erection of a tuberculosis pavilion.—Cheshire Education Committee have acquired a site at Darwen Street, Northwich, for the erection of an elementary school.

NEW SEAHAM.—Preliminary plans for an elementary school at New Seaham are being prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

SCHOOL NEWS.—Many sites have been or are about to be secured for school building purposes. Basingstoke: New grammar school; Clanfield elementary school; Foleshill school, 250 pupils, approximate cost, £11,000; Fremley secondary school; Godalming secondary school; Hatton Advisory Instructor; Rothwell elementary school; Wollop elementary school.—Plans have been prepared and some have been passed or approved in connection with the following schemes:—Elementary school, Bledworth, approximate cost £22,000; remodelling Beaulieu elementary school, approximate cost £2,500; extensions, Guildford grammar school, estimated cost £17,725; new school, 150 pupils, Marston Green, cost £6,000; elementary school,

St. Mary's Road, Merton, £12,600; secondary school for girls, Mitcham, £32,450; secondary school, Blue House Lane, Oxted; enlargement Porchester elementary school, £5,700; extension of Reigate grammar school; secondary school, Solihull, 200 scholars, cost £30,000; Stratford-on-Avon secondary school, cost £22,500; high school, Sutton Coldfield, 300 pupils, cost £50,000; infants' school, Worplesdon, also additions to Wood Street school, total cost, £5,000; county school for girls, Wimbledon, estimated cost, £22,000.

SEAHAM.—On behalf of the Durham C.C. Mr. W. Milburn, architect, of Sunderland, has prepared plans and estimates for adapting Seaham Hall and Earl's House Buildings for the purposes of sanatoria, etc., and the plans are to be submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval.

STANLEY.—The Urban District Council are being urged to undertake further housing schemes, the Durham county medical officer estimating that about one thousand houses are still required before the needs of the district are met.

STANHOPE.—Plans for an elementary school at Stanhope have been prepared by the Durham County Education Committee.

STOCKTON.—A conference of local authorities called by the Stockton Corporation have decided in favour of the establishment of a joint smallpox hospital at an estimated cost of £25,000 with provision for 36 patients and capacity for extension to accommodate 60.

WANDSWORTH.—Mr. Poole, the architect, for the scheme for the erection of 14 flats on the Blackshaw Road site has prepared a modified plan to secure a reduction in the cost of the proposal.—Revised estimates, totalling £119,500, have been prepared for the erection of 169 houses on the Furzedown site and 40 on the Southfields estate.—Plans passed: 70 houses, Kirkstall Road, and New Park Road, Brixton Hill, for Messrs. Tysoe & Harris; 12 houses, Merton Road, Southfields, for Messrs. G. E. Sturgis & Son; 10 houses, West Hill Road, Southfields, for Messrs. Gault & Metcalfe; rebuilding 33 and 35, High Street, Putney, for Messrs. Meakers, Ltd.; 7 houses off Barrow Road, Streatham, for Mr. G. Hill; 3 houses, Hebdon Road, Balham, for Messrs. W. J. Coleman & Co.

WOOLWICH.—Messrs. F. and T. Thorne, who are erecting the boys' department of the Hamo Road school, Woolwich, are to be invited by the L.C.C. Education Committee to quote for the erection of the girls' department as an extension of their contract.

Tenders Accepted and Recommended.

Hull Corporation have accepted the tender £17,592 of Messrs. Kettlewell Sons & Co., Ltd., for extensions at the Liverpool Street tramway depot.—Surrey Education Committee have accepted the tender £779 8s. of the Bennett Furnishing Co., for furnishing the Surbiton County School. The same authority have accepted the tender, £35,712, of Messrs. Cropley Bros., Ltd., Epsom, for the erection of a secondary school for girls at Epsom. This is in lieu of the recommended tender, £35,161, of Messrs. Bunning & Fitton-Adams, Ltd.—Surrey County Council have accepted the tender, £4,822, of Messrs. W. G. Cannin & Sons, Ltd., Southwark, for improvements to the heating system at the Brookwood Mental Hospital.—Finchley Education Committee recommend the tender, £1,687, of Messrs. Stevens & Sons, of Muswell Hill, for the erection of an assembly hall at Albert Street school.

Boyle's Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilators have been applied to the New Barracks Depot, Lincoln. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

On the 19th inst. the death took place, suddenly, at Rathvarna, Belfast, of Mr. Robert Magill Young, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., son of the late Right Hon. Robert Young.

The Gisborough Urban District Council have received sanction to their proposed loan of £9,285 for an electricity installation.

The Burnley Board of Guardians have sanctioned the proposed expenditure of £15,000 for alterations to Primrose Bank Infirmary.

Messrs. J. Wright & Co., Ltd., of New Malden, makers of patent fixing blocks, have received from Messrs. Chappell Bros., builders, of Leppern Road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.12, the following testimonial:—

"We are just completing contract for Mr. Wiltshire, estate agent, Ewell, for houses built entirely of your blocks. We find these blocks excellent for this class of work, and are able to cut our brickwork price 25 per cent. and can turn out houses much quicker."

CONTENTS.

Our Greatest Problem	PAGE 397
Some Northumbrian Castles.—II	399
Harefield Church and Its Monuments.—II	403
Good Works	405
Should Women Enter the Building Trade	406

Vineyard Architecture	PAGE 407
Present London Architecture	408
Town Planning in Scotland	409
Book Notes	410
General News	412

Our Greatest Problem.

In France, concurrently with the further depreciation of the franc, trade is good and unemployment negligible, work being so plentiful that a large number of foreigners are employed, while the devastated districts are rapidly resuming their former appearance. Belgium is in a similar happy position; Germany, vanquished in the war, is regaining her former commercial prosperity; while the United States, who now possesses half the world's gold, is making further advances towards a commercial millennium. Italy, once a poor and distressed country, is sharing in the general prosperity, which seems the keynote of the Continental position.

We, on the other hand, while receiving many pleasant compliments on our rectitude and having regained a gold standard, are hampered by enormous taxation, which really means that many of us are giving up much of our earnings to meet the demands of the national exchequer. Nor does this end matters, for our governors are constantly devising new philanthropic schemes for the benefit of those who do not seem inclined to help themselves—by their own efforts but prefer, if they can, to receive benefits paid for by a limited number of taxpayers.

We may well ask whether it is really either just or politic to enlarge the sphere of our benevolence and whether it is really good for those who receive benefits to have quite as much as they are now getting. In 1913, 1,105,000 persons were employed in the coal fields who produced an annual output of 287,000,000 tons, the average annual output per man being 256 tons. The profit made was 1s. 6½d. per ton. In the first quarter of 1921, 1,213,000 persons (or 98,000 more men) produced an annual output of 216,000,000 tons (or 70,000,000 tons less), the annual average per man being 178 tons (or 78 tons less). The profit of 1s. 6½d. per ton in 1913 was converted into a loss of 7s. per ton in the first quarter of 1921, and the cost of production of a ton in 1913 which was 9s. 3½d. had been increased in 1921 to 40s. 3d.

We must come to the conclusion that our collieries have been converted from profit-making concerns to losing ones which could only be kept going by sane men on some philanthropic basis as very costly relief works. It is not surprising that under such conditions our coal export trade, by means of which we paid for the bulk of our imports, should drop to a fraction of its former bulk, nor is it strange, seeing that the price of coal affects that of most manufactured articles, that other trades, including such great industries as engineering and shipbuilding, should be badly affected.

Building, not being affected by foreign competition, has been on a more fortunate footing—for those engaged in the building trades themselves—not for those who were forced to employ them. The operatives, led by those who apparently care little for the general welfare, have generally discouraged most attempts made to increase their numbers by allowing shorter periods of training or making the transition from class to class easier. There is no sign yet that they are likely to suffer for a selfishness and narrowness

of outlook which has been a prominent feature during the after war epoch. The Unions are, of course, eager and ready to support any demand made for an increased provision of State-aided housing paid for by others, but sturdily oppose any proposal by which work can be expedited or costs lessened.

What does it matter to them if the outcome is to increase the cost of houses to a figure that most working men cannot meet? What does it matter to them if others have to put up with inconvenience and hardship because they cannot find suitable accommodation? They are quite ready to object to any substitute method of building which their own action alone has brought under discussion.

When we contrast this with what has been done in Belgium and the devastated regions of France, when we hear of the steady propaganda being carried on in the coalfields the object of which is frankly stated as being directed to make enterprises unprofitable, we can begin to understand the reason why we are monthly and yearly losing our place among the great producing nations of the world. Every trade has its similar tale of difficulty. The organisers of every industry can show cause and point to effect.

We are not denying that there are many individual workers who would be glad and willing to give a good day's work for a good day's pay, but unfortunately the organised bodies which they are frequently terrorised into joining and forced to obey will not allow them to render unto Cæsar what Cæsar has paid for, and Government too frequently treat them as though they were necessary and essential parts of modern civilization instead of an evil growth which in the end must paralyse civilization and bring ruin on the whole community.

In addition, we have administrations by whatever party composed who seem to think it necessary to give help and encouragement to those who could perfectly well help themselves. We hear of women in receipt of the dole waiting outside theatres to attend a first night's performance. Between slack and inefficient work, high rates to provide relief for those whom mistaken administrative methods have given a chance of living without work, and high imperial taxation, our manufacturers too frequently cannot carry on. In addition, diminished consumption in most cases means a heightened cost of production because of the relatively enhanced overhead charges. All these are among the reasons why what used to be the most prosperous country in the world, with the exception of America, is no longer so; one reason why those who yet have control should try to arrest what may be described as the rake's road to ruin; one reason why, in the real interests of every class in the community, the public purse should be closed rather than opened.

There is no real reason why we should not be at least as prosperous as are France and Belgium to-day, no reason why we should not put an end to the debauch

of pauperising extravagance which has come as an aftermath of the war, and no reason why we should not eliminate the evil influences which are at work in our midst. If we do not we shall witness in our lifetimes

the downfall of a great country which has over and over again, and notably in 1914, stood for the cause of liberty and justice for the world rather than for its own selfish interests.

Our Illustrations.

HOUSE AT NEWBURY. CYRIL A. FAREY, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

WANS DYKE END, HUNGERFORD. MICHAEL WATERHOUSE, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

COTTAGE AT OXHEY, HERTS. NICHOLLS, HUGHES & HUMPHRY WYATT, Architects.

HULL STAIRS AND SECOND MASTER'S HOUSE, WINCHESTER. From Etchings by A. HUGH FISHER.

Notes and Comments.

The Development of East Kent.

Liberal papers are urging that the situation in East Kent which will shortly become an industrial region affords support to the new legislative measures suggested by Mr. Lloyd George in his recently promulgated land campaign. In our view they do nothing of the sort, for we have already on the Statute Books, in the Housing and Town Planning Act, a measure which, if made obligatory instead of optional, would suffice to meet the case in point. At present the authorities of the areas affected may prepare their own schemes and if they do not, on petition of a number of ratepayers the Ministry of Health may be called to do the work over their heads. But the Ministry is reluctant to use this power, which therefore is not often exercised. Now if the Act was obligatory, and not optional, every area in East Kent would have to prepare a scheme and the Ministry of Health would have to sanction it or amend it when proposed. What would follow? The Ministry would have several schemes before them dealing with the area affected by the developments of the new coalfields. It would point out that the area must be dealt with as one great unit instead of several smaller ones and in the absence of agreement would lay down its own plans much as Professor Abercrombie has done in his report. The plans proposed would then, after objections had been considered, be finally settled and agreed upon and all that was wanted would be effected. As it is we are often urged to assent to new legislative proposals in matters which are already covered by existing Acts which have not been fully utilized and so the mass of half-digested legislation grows. What we really want is not so much new measures but the codification and simplification of existing legislation, and last but not least its enforcement.

We should be better off with fewer laws and a better understanding of those which now exist. The waste and tangle of conflicting requirements promulgated by different departments is often enormous. A technical school may be built which meets the requirements of the authorities. If it is decided to transfer it to the Education Department a different set of requirements have to be complied with which may not be possible, with the result that a good and well-equipped building may become a derelict wreck useful to no one. We want more elasticity and freedom to deal with such a transfer as that to which we refer, and even red tape should be modified by commonsense and reason. We have not quoted an imaginary case but one which actually occurred in the West of England.

Aldwych and Kingsway.

At a meeting of the London County Council it was stated that building sites of the estimated value of £42,000 still awaited development in Aldwych and Kingsway. The present approximate value of the sites which have been let is £105,000. Special Parliamentary powers were obtained in 1899 and in 1920 the gross expenditure was stated at £4,977,635 and the net capital cost as £1,068,524. Since that date the Council has had to resume possession of

certain land and until that has been dealt with it is impossible to give the exact cost of the whole improvement. It was stated that the Council had not before them any improvement scheme comparable in scale to that of Kingsway and Aldwych. Those of us who remember the former intricate maze of small streets lying between Holborn and the Strand can alone properly estimate the value of this great improvement.

Iron Schools.

Schools made of steel, and even of cast iron, may be erected before long in order that the present expenditure of the Board of Education may be reduced. In order that a thorough and expert examination may be made into the merits or demerits of alternative methods of building construction, a Departmental Committee has been appointed. Among the members are Sir Charles Ruthen, the present Director-General of Housing at the Ministry of Health, and Sir Frank Baines, the Director of Works at the Office of Works. Both of these officials are architects and have served on the Moir Committee since its establishment, and have therefore had exceptional opportunities of hearing the evidence for and against the use of new materials and methods in house building. Other members of the Committee are Mr. Topham Forrest, the chief architect of the London County Council, who some months ago was afforded special facilities to examine school architecture and design in the United States, and also Mr. G. F. N. Clay, the Board of Education's own architect.

The increasing cost of building schools is one of the problems that Lord Eustace Percy is endeavouring to solve. An elementary school that could be built in 1913 at the average cost per place of about £13 now costs about £28 to £30. At the present time the cost per place of a secondary school, exclusive of the cost of site and furniture, is about £100.

Bombs or Squibs.

We sometimes have letters sent us which we can hardly describe as being useful and serious contributions to a subject but which are interesting sidelights on personality. We think it well from time to time to publish these as we are convinced that many well-intentioned but mistaken people imagine that they have ideas which, if given due publicity, would revolutionise matters—in other words, they believe they are carrying bombs while in reality they have only damp squibs. We published some months ago a photograph from a rough model showing an ingenious scheme for dealing with Waterloo Bridge, together with several letters from the author. We have given him the publicity he wished for, and if his suggestions fall flat we may at least have helped to disabuse his mind of the idea that he has been badly treated or overlooked. We all may cherish such convictions until we seek a larger audience—such as is afforded by the press—but when we find our enthusiastic beliefs do not find an echo in the minds of others, good is done and illusions dispelled. The fewer the number of those who are left with grievances the better and happier will be the world.



HOUSE AT NEWBURY.

CYRIL A. FAREY, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

DRAWING BY CYRIL A. FAREY.

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WANS DYKE END, HUNGERFORD.

MICHAEL WATERHOUSE, ARCHITECT.

DRAWING BY L. H. BUCKNELL.

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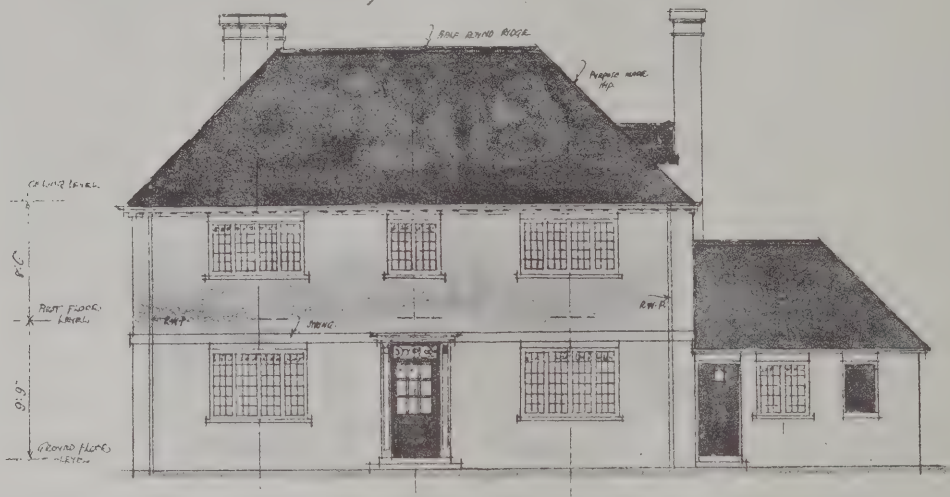
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For Sir George.

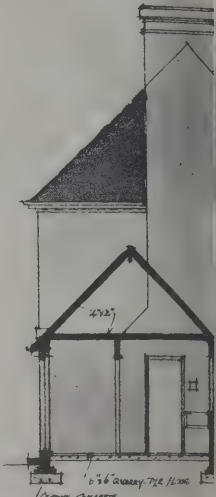
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referred to in the contract

Signed by the said *Muskins*

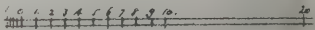
Signed by the said *G. & D. Walsman*



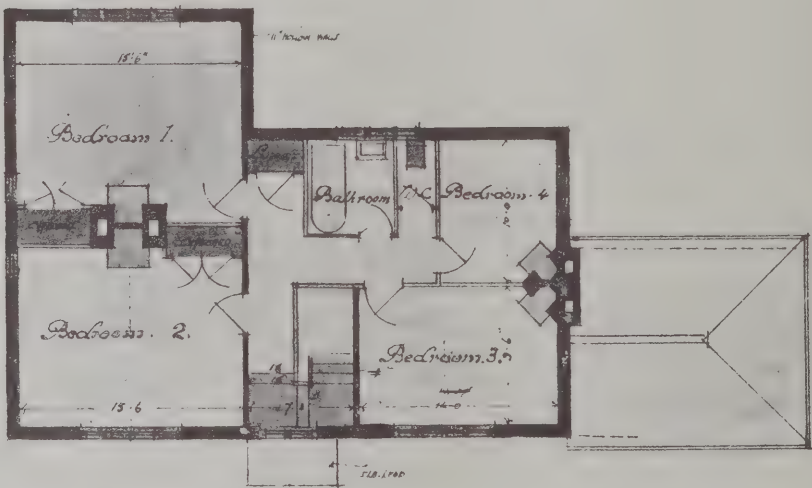
North Elevation.



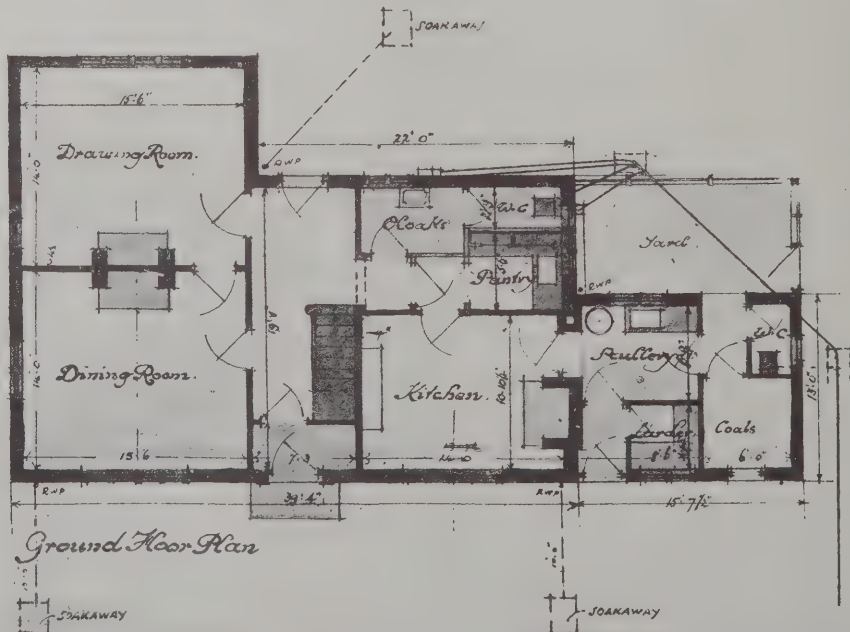
West Elevation.



Scale of Feet



First Floor Plan.



Ground Floor Plan

DECEMBER 4th, 1925.

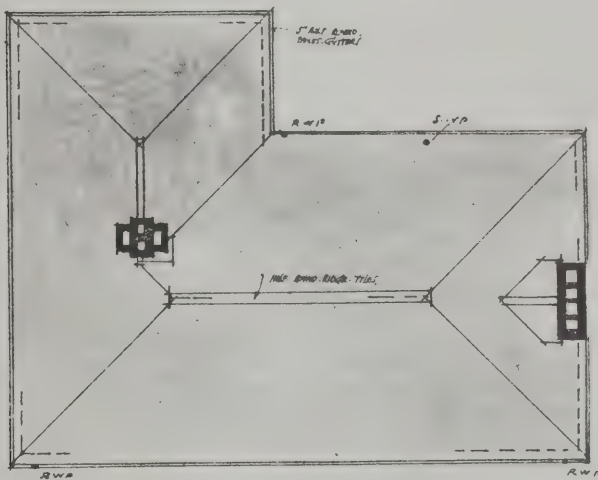
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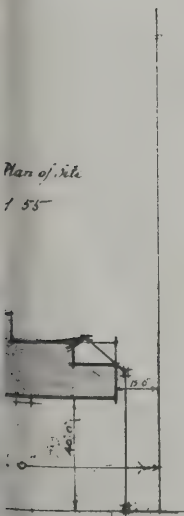
Drawing No 1



South Elevation.



Roof Plan.



Plan of site
1/55

1/55

Scale 40 feet = 1 inch.



East Elevation.

Nicholls-Hughes-Humphrey & Co
Architects
& Raymond Buildings
Landscape Architects
London W.C.

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HULL STAIRS, WINCHESTER.

FROM ETCHING BY A. HUGH FISHER,
EXHIBITED AT THE GREATOREX GALLERIES.

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PHOTO: W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.2

SECOND MASTER'S HOUSE, WINCHESTER.

FROM ETCHING BY A. HUGH FISHER.

EXHIBITED AT THE GRETOREX GALLERIES.

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Some Northumbrian Castles.

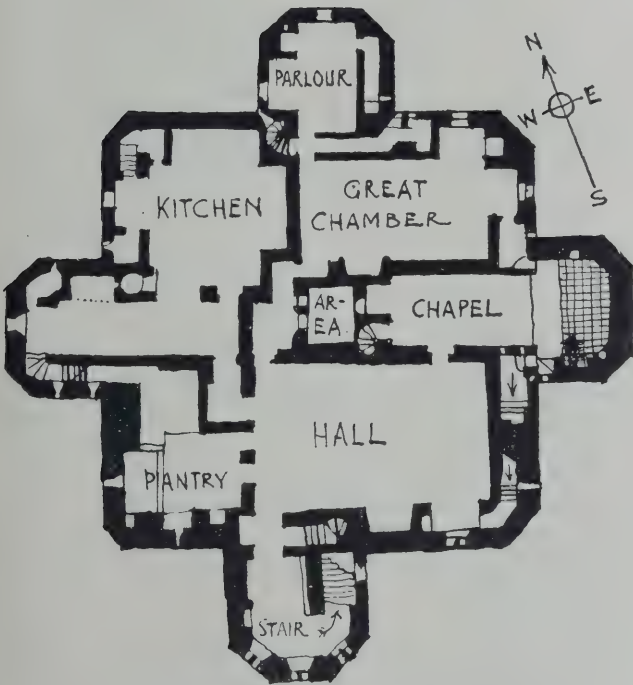
By KENNETH GLOVER, F.R.I.B.A.

Illustrated by BYRON DAWSON.

II.—Warkworth and Dilston.



WARKWORTH CASTLE Drawn by BYRON DAWSON.



THE KEEP, WARKWORTH CASTLE.
Plan of Principal Floor

Warkworth Castle was a storm-centre. If the keep suggests, from the exterior, a hospitable mansion :
"Where throngs of knights and barons bold
In weeds of peace high triumphs hold,"
history tells another tale.

About two miles from its mouth the River Coquet takes a big loop, and, owing to the precipitous nature of the peninsula thus formed, provides a site for a castle which would naturally appeal to a Norman baron.

The plan of the castle may be considered as roughly triangular, with the keep at the northern apex. The earliest parts were probably erected by Roger FitzRichard on the site of the earlier Saxon stockade of "Wercewode."

There cannot, however, have been much of a formidable character about this first building, for about ten years later William the Lion "did not deign to stop there, for weak was the castle, the wall and the trench."

In 1332 the castle was conferred on the Percies, from which time it was their principal residence for 200 years.

The castle was entered—if the defenders willed—by the great gatehouse in the South curtain, and was defended by the usual moat, drawbridge, pit, portcullis, oilets and machicolations.

This gateway is very beautifully designed, being flanked by two semi-octagon towers. The angles of these towers are, on their southern edges, strengthened by buttresses of similar shape to the tower, and terminating about half-way up it in slopes of spire-like form. Set between the towers is the gate, a short distance above which the wall is slightly corbelled out. At the top are larger corbels, forming machicolations, and in general the gatehouse bears a resemblance to the Alnwick example.

Proceeding through this gateway, we find ourselves in the bailey, with the remains of the chapel on our immediate left hand. The keep is opposite to us at the north end, while on the left, or western side, are the ruins of the old hall, with its pantries, kitchens and butterys. On the right or eastern wall were situated the stables, and across the whole width of the bailey between the kitchen and the

old brew-house lie the foundations of a later collegiate chapel, which was never finished.

The curtain is strengthened by towers, that on the south-eastern angle being called the "Montagu" tower, that on the south-western angle being called the "Crakefergus" tower, and that on the centre of the eastern curtain being called the "Grey Mare's Tail," which is probably a corruption of an earlier name.

The most interesting portions of the castle now remaining are the Gatehouse, the Keep and the Lion Tower.

The Keep is a very remarkable building, and was considered by Viollet-le-Duc to be the ideal model for a country house. He even went so far as to take the plans of the Keep as it exists, adapt them for this purpose, and then call them the actual plans of Warkworth Castle!*

The plan of the keep is that of a cross with the angles partially filled in. The result of planning on these lines would be to render portions of the centre somewhat dark. The architect decided, therefore, to form an internal area, or lantern, in order to get the necessary extra lighting, and to provide means of getting the water away from the leads into stone tanks below.

The ground floor contains wine cellars, larders and dungeons, porters' rooms and entrance hall. On the first floor are the great hall, chapel, great chamber, kitchen, parlours, and their adjuncts. The second floor contains a drawing-room, "Clerkes Chamber," study house, and the upper parts of the hall and kitchen.

The great stair is set in the south projection, and rises from the ground floor to a delightfully arranged upper stairhall, which acted as an ante to the great hall. The main staircase stops here, and the requirements of the remainder of the keep in this direction are met by the provision of small mural stairs. As Grose said, "it is a marvellous proper donjon." Freeman said "it was a good study of the process by which the purely military castle gradually passed into the house fortified for any occasional emergency."

There must have been considerable amenity here, because the rooms are well lighted and have good fireplaces. The windows were glazed and in some cases had shutters. Sanitation was well attended to, and there are a goodly number of lavatories.

It is worthy of note that in this keep the walls are not of immense thickness, honeycombed with mural chambers, stairs and garde-robes, but are comparatively thin, while the mural chambers are arranged against them.

The great hall is 41 feet long and from 23 to 25 feet wide. In Tudor times one of its large south windows was blocked up to form a fireplace in the centre of the apartment wall.

Externally, the elevations are a fine expression of the plan. The windows of the upper story are very large and are square-headed, those of the first floor being arched. Between windows and on angle walls are shields. The skyline is very pleasing, and the building is crowned by a small watch-tower rising 35 feet above the roofs.

The Lion tower was built as a more imposing entrance to the thirteenth-century hall, and is a most imposing and vigorous piece of work. It comprises a vaulted porch on the ground floor with guest chambers above.

The entrance front consists of an arched doorway, above which the wall is framed into a huge panel by two pinnacle shafts, with a string course at the bottom and a battle-mented cornice at the top. Within the space formed by these are the armorial ensigns. These consist of a large and boldly carved lion, projecting in high relief from the wall, over which are the shields of the Percies and the Lucys. Above the Percy shield are the remains of a helmet with cap-of-state, which carries what appears to be a ram crest. Over the Lucy shield the helmet has decayed almost completely.

On the soffit of the cornice three badges are carved. The string course is brought outwards to support the "Lion of Louvain" on two brackets, which in turn are supported by fan tracery.

The tower is much decayed by weather, but one can still easily visualise the noble effect which it must have made when in its original state.

Warkworth Castle has been in the hands of the Office of Works, Edinburgh, for the last three years, and a great deal of careful and intelligent restoration and disclosing has been done. The Courtyard had previously been a sort of village playground, but is now a place of beautifully kept lawns, from which rise the old walls, at last being rescued from the ravages of time and weather.

The small building which remains of Dilston Castle stands on the slope of a hill about a mile south-west of the ancient Saxon royal town of Corbridge. It is a historic district; Hexham Abbey lies three miles to the west, the important Roman remains of Corstopitum are almost opposite Dilston on the north bank of the Tyne, while Aydon Castle is within half-an-hour's walk.

If at Warkworth and Aydon it is the buildings, at Dilston it is the sad and romantic story of the third Earl of Derwentwater which evokes our interest and stirs our emotions.

It would be needless here to describe the varying fortunes of Claxtons and Radcliffes. There were several building periods, and it is the remains of the original building of c. 1420 which we now see. To this structure Sir Francis Radcliff added a Jacobean mansion (c. 1616) of E-shape plan enclosing a courtyard, in the centre of which was a fountain. The third Earl of Derwentwater altered this Jacobean mansion out of recognition. He was sent in 1702 (three years before the death of his father) to St. Germain's, and was there brought up with the "old Pretender." At the age of twenty he returned to England, and his first thought was to visit his ancestral seat.

Sir William Swinburne wrote, "My lord is very well pleased with Dilston." This was in 1709.

He was content to live at Dilston for three years before he sought a wife. His father had married Lady Mary Tudor, a natural daughter of Charles II by Mrs. Davis, so that the third Earl was a blood relation of the Stuarts.

In 1712 the young Earl married a Gloucestershire lady, who was to persuade him to alter his mansion, and later to espouse the hopeless Jacobite cause.

So soon as the pair were married they went to live with the bride's father until such time as the alterations were completed at Dilston.

They were, as we shall see, never to be completed. If we may judge the appearance of the new front from a contemporary engraving, its architect had evidently attempted to copy French elevations, quite possibly at the Earl's express wish. The attempt seems to have failed, as the house was not unjustly described as "a barra'ks."

In 1714 these rebuildings and remodellings were sufficiently advanced to allow of the Earl's return, and he and his young wife lived in their new mansion happily enough until in 1715 the Jacobite Rebellion broke out, and from that moment the Earl's fate was sealed.

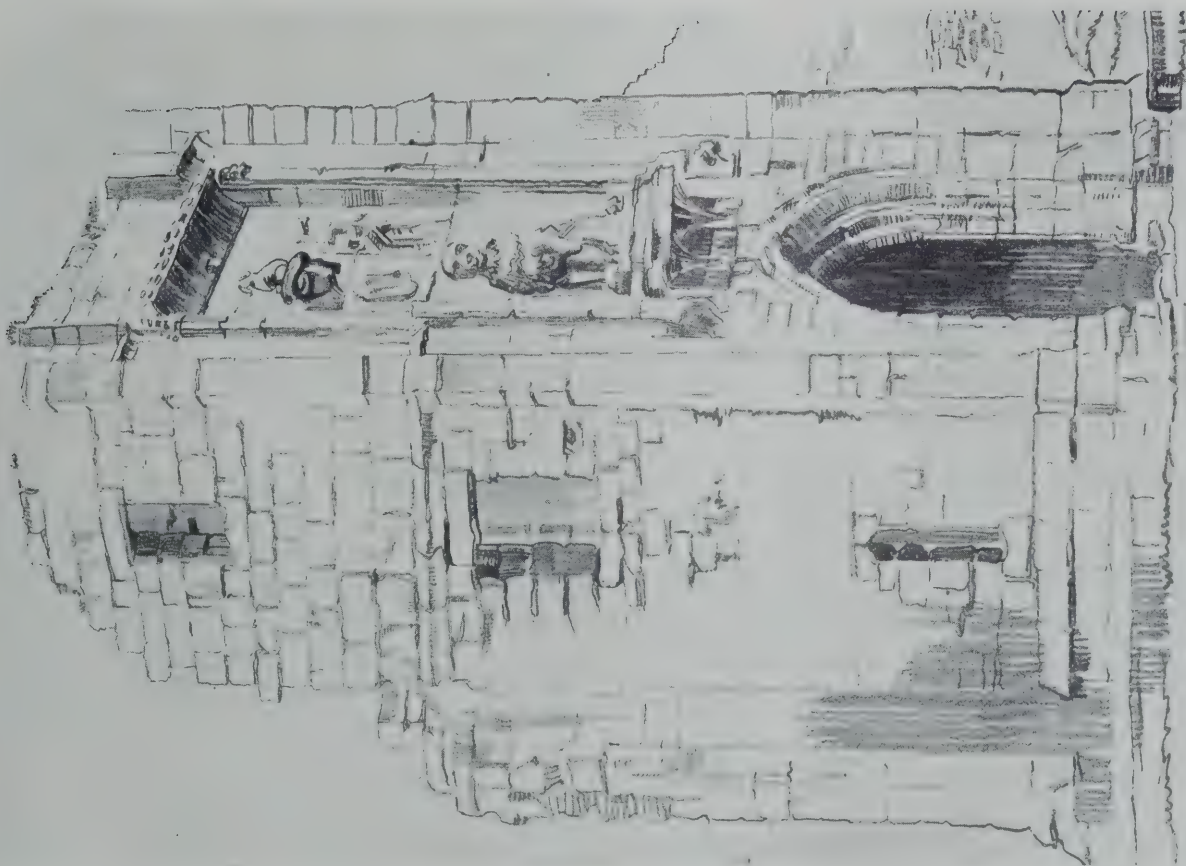
He was very popular in the countryside, and had inherited the good looks and charm of the Stuarts. Patten said of him, "The sweetness of his temper and disposition, in which he had few equals, had so secured him the affection of all his neighbours and dependents that multitudes could have liv'd and dy'd with him. The truth is he was a man form'd by nature to be generally beloved . . . he seemed to live for others . . . his fate will be sensibly felt by a great many who had no kindness for the cause he died in."

All this happiness was soon to be swiftly shattered, this house of dreams to be broken into irreparable fragments.

Endowed, as we have seen, with a happy and lovable disposition, and devoted only to the peaceful occupations of a country gentleman, we can well imagine that the young Earl was not excessively interested in the attempted restoration of the Stuarts. Perhaps some uncanny sense born of Scottish antecedents and the fatalism of the Stuarts warned him that a futile enterprise was on foot.

At any rate, that he had forebodings there can be no doubt; but his Countess became restive, and urged him to take up arms for the Stuart cause.

* Bates. History of Northumberland, p. 101, note 5.



WARKWORTH CASTLE: LION GATEWAY.
SOME NORTHUMBRIAN CASTLES.



WARKWORTH CASTLE: GATE HOUSE.
Drawn by BYRON DAWSON.



DILSTON CASTLE. Drawn by BYRON DAWSON.

For some weeks he hesitated, until a warrant for his arrest stirred him to action. He had nothing prepared, but he assembled all his servants and horses, and the party rode off on their crazy errand. There is a beautiful old ballad :

"Farewell, farewell, my lady dear,
Ill, ill thou counsell'st me ;
I never more may see the babe
That smiles upon thy knee.

Farewell to pleasant Dilston Hall,
My father's ancient seat ;
A stranger now must call thee his
Which gars my heart to greet."

It was soon over, and on February 24 he was executed on Tower Hill at the age of twenty-six. Tears welled up in the eyes of each one of those thirty-five persons who witnessed the tragic moment when the brown head was laid upon the block. With tears running down his cheeks the executioner asked his lordship's pardon, which the Earl readily granted.

The fortunes of Dilston Castle thereafter were dismal in the extreme. The 1714 rebuilding had been peremptorily stopped on the departure of the Earl, and the builders never returned.

Later, the place came into the possession of Greenwich Hospital, whose Commissioners ordered in 1765 the demolition of the ruined mansion. The estate was bought in 1874 by the first Lord Allendale from the Admiralty.

The Earl's body had been brought from Tower Hill after the execution, being embalmed and placed in a lead coffin.

In 1805 this coffin was opened, and the body and head were found in a state of complete preservation. "The hair was quite perfect; the features regular, and wearing the appearance of youth." The coffin and its contents were removed in 1874 to the family vault of Lord Petre at Thorndon in Essex, Lord Petre being a descendant of the Radcliffs on the female side. This was the last act in the tragic history.

"Post vitam brevem,
Difficilem Inutilem,
Quiescit in Domino."

Architectural Sketch Club. Southport School of Art

The architectural subject for this year's Sketch Prize was a design for a Campanili, and a goodly number of designs were submitted. It is doubtful whether any other subject could have had the same fascination as that of a Campanili. The architectural students have each produced a conception that is dignified, and pleasing in coloured textures. Byzantine and Romanesque influences are apparent in several designs, while others bear strong resemblance to the characteristic Campanili of Renaissance times in a modified form. W. L. Lowry, a senior student, who has done remarkably well in his architectural studies at the Southport School of Art, secures the prize with a design that embodies the truest characteristics relative to the problem. The treatment is simple to a degree, yet it is all that is required of the subject. The long slender vertical lines are essential, while the horizontal breaks at the bases, and belfry, happily counteract any over-emphasis in the vertical direction. The materials are distributed to the best advantage, and the stonework at the base adds strength and weight to the most vital part of the structure. The pilaster arrangement at the belfry storey is a little heavy, but this could easily be rectified by introducing narrow returns at the four angles, and thus lighten this rather heavy *motif*. The drawings are rendered in a most attractive manner, the colouring being cleverly manipulated.

The other designs are worthy of mention, indicating that much thought and labour was devoted in the preparation of each scheme. They are not so striking as the winner lacking that simplicity of form which is so necessary for this subject.

A design suggesting Byzantine influence marks Mr. Wheatley's design. As a piece of drawing it is excellent, but the handling of the masses is not quite so satisfactory. One cannot admire that large arched opening covering two storeys, terminated by the shallow horizontal coursing. The window *motifs*, though well defined in themselves, have not been composed to the best advantage in relation to the other architectural forms. The most pleasing feature is the octagon crowning the tower, this being a very suitable termination to the structure. Mr. W. L. Lowe's design is powerful in its mass. The elevated platform to the base assists in building up the pile. The ground storey is treated in columnar style, and although sound in its manipulation is not applicable to Campanili elements.

Other schemes bear the stamp of a sound training in design. Naturally, they fall short of perfection, yet in each individual effort there are qualities which proves that the students are grasping the fundamentals of architectural design, under the able tuition of Mr. Gordon Hemm, formerly of the Liverpool University School of Architecture.

Harefield Church and its Monuments.—II.

A Lecture Delivered at Gerrards Cross on November 9, 1925, by Mrs. Esdaile.

We may now return to the south wall of the chancel and its extraordinary monuments to three Ladies Newdigate, three gigantic Greek jars, six feet high at least, of the type placed in Athens upon graves, set in black plaster niches. That nearest the altar has upon the lid a mourning boy leaning on a torch reversed, the ancient genius of Death; on the body of the jar a classical female figure reclines on a Greek couch and holds up the wreath of immortality. This work, to the memory of Sophia, Lady Newdigate (ob. 1774), is unsigned, but the next niche reveals the secret of the authorship. This jar, in memory of Elizabeth, Lady Newdigate (ob. 1785), is surmounted by a figure of Religion holding a cross, and on the body of the jar Faith, Hope and Charity stand side by side. But in what a guise! The archæologist will recognise in the Faith nothing less than an archaic Aphrodite on a famous candelabrum in the Vatican, and her companions are equally Greek—and, I hasten to add, very purely and perfectly Greek. Under the projecting slab below are the letters "R. H. FR."—Richard Hayward Fecit, that is, beyond a doubt. For Hayward worked in Rome; no other sculptor of the age has those initials; and the figure of Religion on the first is imitated from one by Roubiliac which Hayward admired so much that in his copy of that sculptor's sale catalogue the casts of it are the only entries on which he troubled to make notes.

After the first wife and the mother of Sir Roger Newdigate we have his second wife Hester commemorated in the same way, only—and as we shall see the difference is significant—the lid is crowned by a group of little angels, and on the body of the vase a kneeling figure of Faith, in the conventional dress of the nineteenth-century monument, holding a cross and reaching out her hands to an angel appearing from the skies. This lady died in 1800, and the sculptor of the vase, which is somewhat smaller and noticeably less classical in its outlines than the earlier pair, was the younger John Bacon.

These amazing monuments to his mother and his two wives were commissioned by Sir Roger Newdigate, founder of the Prize which bears his name. He was a man of high classical taste who spent much time in Rome, doing the Grand Tour in the grand manner and making a notable collection of classical antiquities. Evidently he came across Richard Hayward in Rome—there is a brief unpublished diary of that sculptor's dealing with his stay there—and the consequence of this meeting was this extraordinary series of works. We may even say, I think, that Sir Roger himself was responsible for their design. The two earlier are wholly unlike any other work of the sculptor's, and the classical purity of outline and accuracy with which ancient types are introduced are totally different from Hayward's usual manner. But when the third Lady Newdigate died, Sir Roger—then a very old man—had to employ a new sculptor. Hayward was dead, and he applied to the younger John Bacon, son of the R.A. of the same name. The father had died in 1799; the son succeeded to many of his father's patrons and, as his works in St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey show, appeared to be the rising sculptor of his generation—he was not twenty-five when this Newdigate commission was executed. But, like his father, he was an extreme Evangelical of the Clapham School, and had he realised the heathen origin of the jar he was required to copy, I am absolutely certain—and I speak from a profound and boring knowledge of the Bacon family papers—that he would never have undertaken the commission. As it was, he evidently went to see the jars made by his predecessors, and proceeded—never having seen the like before—to copy by eye. He got the jar too small and the proportions wrong, and christianised the lid and the body with angels and Faith; and the consequence is a very singular mixture of bastard Athenian form and nineteenth-century Pietism.

On the wall of the south aisle is a tiny imitation of these great vases, bearing a lily in relief, set in a large and ugly

Gothic niche. The little Diana Newdigate thereby commemorated died in 1765, but it is possible that her monument is also due to the younger Bacon, who signs the monument to Charles and Millicent Parker on the north wall of the chancel. He died in 1795, and his wife, a granddaughter of Sir Richard Newdigate, erected this monument. The background is ugly, and so is the urn; but the relief representing the Tree of Life hung with crowns of glory, to which Faith points a woman and child, while Charity extends her veil over four children, is very charming. The allegory—Faith directing the gaze of the widow and fatherless and Charity carrying on the duties that remain—may be trite, but the work is both pretty and delicate, and the idea most characteristic of the sculptor. He was not much over twenty when it was executed, and were it signed by Flaxman the world would have admired it long ago. But, Bacon's works discussed together, we must return to the great vases and realise their interest as the forerunners of that artistic movement known as Neo-Hellenism, the protagonists of which are usually held to be Banks and Flaxman, who both went to Rome, fell under the spell of the Antique as preached by Winckelmann, and returned to support Sir Joshua Reynolds in his detestation of traditional sculpture and with him to train the rising school of sculptors in the new principles. Those principles were first enunciated in England by Sir Joshua, and his Tenth Discourse, delivered on December 11, 1780, is our source of information. He begins by defining sculpture: "its essence is correctness"; "sculpture is formal, regular and austere . . . disdains all familiar objects as incompatible with its dignity. . . . Whatever partakes of fancy or caprice, or goes under the denomination of picturesque, is incompatible with that gravity and sobriety which is peculiarly the characteristic of this art." Therefore, of course, such sculptors as Bernini and Legros are anathema, since they are vivid, fanciful and realistic. If, as is clear, the beauty of sculpture should be held to reside in form alone, Bernini's evil example lay in not pursuing the study of that still, ideal beauty. "The boundaries of the art have long been fixed, and all endeavours will be vain that hope to pass beyond the best works which remain of ancient sculpture; grace, character and expression . . . are exhibited in sculpture rather by form and attitude than by the features." Finally, Reynolds utters a furious denunciation of modern costume. "He who wishes not to obstruct the artist and prevent his exhibiting his abilities to their greatest advantage, will certainly not desire a modern dress." "The desire of transmitting to posterity the shape of modern dress must be acknowledged to be purchased at a prodigious price, even the price of everything that is valuable in art. . . . Pictures of an inferior style, or prints, may be considered as sufficient" evidence of modern costume "without prostituting this great art to such mean purposes."

When such was the doctrine of Reynolds, it is not surprising that English sculpture suffered. The elder Bacon, Reynolds's friend and colleague, wanted to represent Lord Rodney in modern costume; he was overruled, and the statue in Jamaica, created in memory of Rodney's victory in 1781, is in the dress of a Roman Emperor. Bacon wished to represent Dr. Johnson as we all know him; Reynolds, who, in the Discourse already quoted, regrets that the Apostles in St. Peter's were not represented in the habit of Greek philosophers, insisted on ancient costume, with the result that the doctor's statue in St. Paul's, suggests, in Mr. John Bailey's words, "the figure of a retired gladiator, meditating upon a wasted life."

Harefield, we may thankfully say, contains no example of modern classicism of this sort; but the great vases are a very early and singular case of the new enthusiasm inspired by the study of Greek art, and they were executed before Banks and Flaxman, generally considered of the movement in England, had begun their efforts to græcise

our English sculpture. But the legacy of the movement, a generalising of form, a departure from accuracy of detail, is only too apparent in such things as Bacon's Charity and Faith upon the Parker monument, the ancestors of the poor female figures only too frequent afterwards. You will find an example of 1837 in the nave, a lamentable tablet, with a female figure weeping over an urn to the memory of Lt.-General Sir George Cooke, K.C.B.

The movement not only resulted in a definite school of indeterminate and typical figures, void of character and individuality, but in a very definite revolt against the realism of previous English sculpture. Such a work as the bust of Sir Richard Newdigate, at Harefield, with its nightcap and loose gown, and its very marked individuality, set on a fine monument not of strictly classical but of traditional form, with details gradually embodied from various sources, became detestable to sculptors; and as Flaxman, the greatest opponent of this art, was not only a sculptor but Professor of Sculpture at the Royal Academy, his principles, which were wholly adverse to such art, were accepted as gospel by his hearers, the sculptors of the next generation. Then followed the Gothic Revival, which objected to our English Renaissance monuments, not because they were not Greek, but because they were not Gothic; the Oxford movement looked on monuments as self-assertion; the unfortunate traditional style in sculpture was more out of favour than ever—so much so, that it is almost impossible for us to look at it in an unprejudiced way. But it is high time we did so. There are many mansions in the Palace of Art, and if we are ready to-day to admire Hogarth and Botticelli—and Hogarth has never, as an artist, been so much admired as now—we ought to be able to appreciate mediæval tombs, Jacobean monuments, and what we may for convenience call our English Renaissance without complaining that they are different.

If we go outside and visit the north wall of the church itself, we shall find an unexpected treasure, the exquisite rococo tablet with a long verse inscription set up by William Ashby, of Brakespeare, to his faithful gamekeeper, Robert Mossendew, in 1744. There is the old man in shooting dress, three-cornered hat, long flapped coat and waistcoat, his gun under his arm, with dog Tray at his heels, setting out some winter's morning on his duties. Below is the inscription, which is worthy to stand beside some of those to old servants in the Greek anthology:

"William Ashby, of Brakespeare, esquire, erected this to the memory of his faithful servant, Robert Mossendew, who departed this life February 5, 1744, aged 60 years.

In frost and snow, through hail and rain,
He scoured the woods and trudged the plain;
The steady pointer leads the way,
Stands at the scent, then springs the prey;
The timorous birds from stubble rise,
With pinions stretch'd, divide the skys;
The scatter'd lead pursues the sight,
And death in thunder stops their flight.
This spaniel, of true English kind,
Who's gratitude inflam'd his mind;
This servant, in an honest way,
In all his actions copy'd Tray."

We have finished, in so far as anything can be said to be finished which leaves so much unsaid. There are literally dozens of other tablets and mural monuments of which I have said nothing, not that they are unworthy of notice—on the contrary, quite a number of them are both well designed and interesting, if we will only take the trouble to look at them. And how rarely we do! It is only five weeks since I had the privilege of spending two hours in one of our cathedrals with the Dean, who loves every stone in the place. I paused more than once before the eighteenth-century tablets and monuments, and he asked why I did so. We discussed them, and at the end he said: "I never thought of looking at these things; you have made me see that there is real beauty in them, of a kind we don't generally notice." That is just it; we don't notice anything but Gothic or Jacobean monuments; we simply do not see that a well-proportioned

work of a later period may contain the beauty of a Pheidias temple on a small scale, the beauty of form, balance, and delicate ornament. And, we may add, of really exquisite lettering, all sense of which seems to have vanished from sculpture about 1800, though before then it was common not to great sculptors only, but to the meanest village mason; in his work, indeed, it lingered for another forty years. Why was the secret lost? I fear the answer is again that the master ceased to take an interest in it. When Pope was following every stage of Guelfi's monument to his friend Craggs in Westminster Abbey with anxious care, he was gravely perturbed by the sculptor's illness, which meant that the inscription had to be cut by another hand. The man he got to cut it, Francis Bird, was the leading sculptor of the day, the colleague of Wren at St. Paul's, the author of the Apostles on the roof and of the great west pediment itself, the sculptor of some twenty monuments in Westminster Abbey. That was in 1722. Roubiliac himself kept a set of types for his customers to choose from; he died in January, 1762. But by the end of the century the cutting was left to the workman, the lettering had lost all distinction, dignity, and sometimes even legibility. It was a sign of the times, of the severance between the sculptor and the finished product of which I have already spoken.

What we have lost by the war no one can tell; but, though we have all seen unworthy war memorials, we may, I think, thankfully acknowledge signs of better things. There is a return to the fine mural tablet, to the dignified lettering of the past, and we may, I think, take hope for the future. Such a work as the Harefield War Memorial, recently unveiled, with its fine proportions and lettering, could hardly have been done twenty years ago, and we shall not like it the less for knowing that the obelisks which crown its cornice are a return to the form of Elizabethan days, and were then borrowed from Rome to symbolise, as they had symbolised in classical times, that immortality which it is one duty of a monument to suggest and typify.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

DECEMBER 4, 1875.

ARCHITECTS' CHARGES.

At a late meeting of the Guardians of the West Ward Union a letter was read from Messrs. Perkin & Sons, of Leeds, the architects for the new Workhouse, stating that when the signing of the contract was completed it was the custom of the profession that one-half of the percentage on the total outlay should be paid, and applying for a cheque for 100*l*. Subsequently they forwarded a printed form showing that their practice was to charge, in addition to the commission of 5 per cent. on the total outlay, travelling expenses, postages, hotel charges, and several other items. This document gave rise to a long conversation at the meeting, in the course of which several Guardians expressed a strong opinion that the conditions were altogether contrary to the understanding come to by the Messrs. Perkin with the Building Committee at Shap, on July 6 last. The following resolution, on the motion of the Chairman, was eventually come to, and ordered to be forwarded to the architects:—"The Guardians do not recognise the scale of remuneration mentioned in the printed form mentioned by Messrs. Perkin & Sons, and the clerk is hereby instructed to write to the architects that the Guardians quite understand that they were to pay the architect 5 per cent. on the outlay as commission in payment for their plans and services, and also the costs actually paid by them for their travelling expenses and postages, as agreed by the architects on July 6 last. The Guardians consider that the sum of 5*l*. per cent. shall cover the remuneration to be paid to the architects for the whole of their time and services, according to said agreement, and the Guardians also understand that the plans, drawings and specifications are the property of the Guardians."

BEDFORD.—Plans passed:—Offices at Queen's Engineering Works, for Mr. G. P. Allen, for Messrs. Allen & Co., Ltd; 20 houses, Dents Road, for the Corporation.

GLASGOW.—The Housing Committee are arranging for the erection of the following subsidy houses:—Messrs. John Adams & Co., 54 terrace houses at Shawlands; Mr. Robert Buchan, 6 houses at New Street, Tollcross; and Mr. James Downs, 61 houses at Jordanhill.

Good Work.

We are not sure that there is not danger in the excessive laudation of the importance of architecture to the world which is often indulged in and the indications given of the difficulties to be surmounted by the architect before he can tread the Olympian heights of perfect design.

Many younger men listening to the impassioned discourse of an enthusiast are apt to turn away discouraged by the difficulties in the way of achieving the disclosed heights of Pisgah, from whence the promised land can be discerned; he is apt to think too little of what perseverance and work will achieve and too much of what can only be achieved by genius. Or, on the other hand, he may feel too exalted, and imagine he is passing through a novitiate to a fraternity set aside by the austerity and beauty of its faith and separated by it from the community of mankind.



DOORWAY IN GREAT ORMOND STREET, W.C.1.

Instead of this he is taking up a calling with many complicated sides and very varied scope, a calling which is part of art on one side but which is closely connected with business and practical requirements on the other one, the successful application of which is only possible if he can appreciate his fellows and understand their requirements. If he thinks of his subject alone in dealing with men he will never get to grips with them, for he will never be in touch with them completely. It is necessary to be quick to see what is at the back of the minds of others, which is never possible for him to achieve if he is too absorbed with his own subject. He should necessarily, when working, be able to concentrate on one thing alone, but this should not be because he knows no other, but because, for the time being, he shuts other issues out of his mind.

As regards ability, he should remember that it is comparatively rare that genius is required. To give an illustration, had the great masters of the Italian Renaissance had no other work than that of building small houses or designing small street buildings, what they produced would hardly have been noticeably different than the work produced by lesser men, and we are constantly coming across small works by men whom we do not know which could hardly be better if they were the work of a great architect. The problem has been comparatively easy, and could be solved by anyone having a certain sense of proportion, education, and a fair training in practical matters.

Much of the average architect's work is easy and not difficult, and, fortunately for us, we can readily learn what to do and what to avoid.

A pitfall to be avoided is the desire to create an impression with the money we are entrusted to spend, which, if men

only stop to think, is somewhat like ordering an expensive dinner composed of dishes we know a guest will not care for, and there is no good giving a man oysters and chablis if we know he would prefer bread and cheese and beer.

Nay, more, unless we have much experience we may subsequently find that neither oysters nor chablis have been of the best. It is dangerous to look upon a building as a monument of our skill which, though we have a shrewd suspicion that it will not entirely please our client, we hope will attract others. This is precisely like taking a careless shot at a bird and hoping it may hit another and a finer one. Prospective clients are more likely to think of "safety first" when they choose their architects, and the architect who prides himself inwardly on having "a touch of genius" will in most cases be passed by. Led by hope, he has played a part, only to find his acting has not carried conviction.

In effect, though many embrace the calling of architecture who are completely unfitted for it but might make good business men, bank clerks or even costumiers or hair-dressers, a very large number can contribute a good deal to the world's appearance by neither being unduly modest or vain, by not attempting to run when walking is all that is required, and by reining in the egotism which is in greater or less degree in most of us, by studying the essentials of good, straightforward design without attempting to be "precious," and, above all, by carefully considering the character and type of everyone one has business dealings with, as there are always points of contact and points where no contact is possible, however hard we try to effect it.

BIRKENHEAD.—The Board of Education has approved the erection of a secondary school for girls on land in Birkenhead Park, off Park Road South. The building has been planned by Messrs. Rees & Holt, architects, 64 Rodney Street, Liverpool, and will cost about £55,000.

LIVERPOOL.—Mr. A. Cuddy, the Diocesan Schools' architect for the Archdeaconery of Liverpool, who has offices at 20 Hackins Hey, Liverpool, has been commissioned to prepare plans for the erection of new Church of England schools in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Maghull. A site has been given by Mr. E. E. Linaker, of Charlesbie, Lathom. The plans for the new joint hospital for women, combining in one new building the Shaw Street Hospital for Women and the Samaritan Hospital for Women, have been approved by the Estate Committee. The plans have been prepared by Messrs. E. Kirby & Sons, architects and surveyors, 5, Cook Street, Liverpool, for a building of stone construction containing 4 to 5 storeys with basement, and the estimated cost is £120,000. Messrs. Briggs & Thornley, of 606 Royal Liver Buildings, Liverpool, have in preparation drawings for the extensions proposed at the Royal Albert Institution for the Feeble-minded People of the Northern Counties at Lancaster. It is the intention of the management to provide six detached homes, each having accommodation for 50 patients and grouped in relation to a central administrative block. As soon as the plans have been passed by the Board of Control the work will be put in hand.

NORTHENDEN.—Foundation stones have now been laid in connection with the erection of the new institute and club premises for the members of the Northenden Comrades and Social Club. The estimated cost of the new building, with land, furniture and apparatus is £3,100. It has been planned by Mr. F. W. Mountain, architect, of Sale Road, and the contractors are Messrs. E. Coleman, Ltd., of Sale, Cheshire.

BLACKPOOL.—Mr. Stanley A. Royle, architect and surveyor, Holme Eaden, Fleetwood Road, Carleton, has prepared a layout plan for the development of building land in Fleetwood Road of about 2½ acres.

CARDIFF.—The final plans for the proposed new schools at St. Joseph's, The Heath, for the Rev. Father Ottway, the Rector of the parish, have now been deposited at the offices of the Board of Education, Whitehall, London. Tenders for the building will be invited as soon as they are returned with the Board's approval. The architect is Mr. C. Bates, of Newport, Mon., and the building will be of brick construction and accommodate 400 scholars. Mr. Bates is also in charge of the schools that are being erected by the Rev. Father Quigley at Cwmbran, Mon.

Should Women Enter the Building Trade?

REFLECTIONS ON THE HOUSES OF TO-DAY.

By R. B. Ince.

Is it not high time that women entered the building trade? They would bring to the work much-needed commonsense and a practical appreciation of the householder's difficulties.

There is evidence all around us of the way in which men have muddled the building trade. We do not get houses under present conditions and when we do get them they are not the houses we want.

At the present time the whole country is being made hideous, not to say ridiculous, by the fantastic contraptions that are being run up by builders.

If the inmates of Bedlam had been let loose and asked to build houses they could not have done much worse.

The modern builder's house is a nightmare in bricks and tiles. Not understanding the merits of simplicity he builds fussy little houses and crams as many discordant "ornaments" on to their exteriors as he can.

You will find turrets and pinnacles and pagoda-like excrescences fitted on to houses built to imitate "old English" homes with beams and cornices. You will find a ridiculous little week-end cottage fitted with an imposing porch in cheap imitation of some ancestral mansion.

Recently I came upon a small country house with some dozen or so of little church spires stuck about at angles of the roof. Whether the owner was a retired parson I know not. More likely the builder had an inspiration to erect it after a late supper of beer, pickles and lobster salad.

We might condone these terrible outsides if the insides were comfortable and convenient. But they are, as a rule, nothing of the kind.

Recently, at a seaside town, I went over a newly-built house. The builder-owner was very proud of it and asked £120 per annum rent.

In that house the only means of heating the water was from a diminutive boiler built into the wall behind the dining-room fireplace. In the kitchen there was no fireplace; only a gas-range.

The rooms were badly arranged and of ridiculously unequal dimensions. On the ground floor were two large rooms. One of these was unnecessarily large. Then there was a tiny square box of a room without any fireplace. It was quite obviously useless for any purpose whatsoever.

Two of the bedrooms were without fireplaces. There was no box-room and no linen cupboard. One bedroom led out of another. The house had been so badly planned that nobody with any knowledge of house property would ever care to rent it—far less buy it.

And this house is not the exception to prove the rule. In the process of house hunting I have looked over many other houses in the same and other districts equally foolishly planned.

Had a woman attended to the arrangement of that house it is highly improbable that she would have made such gross blunders.

For one thing, every woman knows the value of a plentiful supply of hot water. To build a house in which it would be impossible (without structural alterations) to instal a kitchen range is a blunder which no woman builder would ever make.

Neither would she build bedrooms without fireplaces. It is true a bedroom fire is a luxury seldom indulged in. But the chimney provides a very necessary means of ventilation. No room without one can ever be really healthy to sleep in.

Women know very well that the size and shape of rooms are all-important factors. If you have space for three decent-sized rooms it is foolish to build one room larger than necessary with the result that the third room is hardly bigger than a cupboard.

Kitchen and larder also are items to which the average builder pays little attention.

Women know that the kitchen is all important. If you want to get *and keep* a maid you must see to it that the kitchen is a comfortable room with sufficient space, air and sunshine.

One reason why servants in the old days were easier to get and keep was that the kitchens were more comfortable and homely in many of the old houses.

Who but a man would make the larder face south? And yet in many recently-built houses such is the case.

Women architects are all very well, but it is women builders we want. To the house problem they would bring that intimate knowledge of domestic needs that men, for the most part, lack.

Competition News.

It has been recommended by the Public Health Committee of the Doncaster Town Council that the two plots of land situate on the westerly boundary of the site already appropriated for the erection of a new Infectious Diseases Hospital at Balby, be included in the site of the hospital and not set apart as originally intended for extension purposes. There are now three fields fronting Tickhill Road to give the competitive architects an opportunity of showing what they can do. Mr. T. R. Milburn, of Sunderland, has been appointed assessor, and the competition will shortly take place.

BLACKPOOL MEMORIAL CLOCK TOWER COMPETITION.

The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Mr. E. Bertram Kirby, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., as assessor in this competition.

R.I.B.A. Notes.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS CONSIDERED EXPERIMENTALLY.

A paper on "Some Problems in the Construction of Buildings Considered Experimentally" will be given by Professor E. G. Coker, D.Sc., F.R.S., M.Inst.C.E., in his laboratory at University College, Gower Street, on Thursday, December 17, at 5 p.m.

The paper describes experiments on the measurement of stresses in foundations, window openings and cornices obtained by an optical method using polarized light, which allows of the determination of the intensity and direction of stress at any point.

The paper will be illustrated by a number of experiments and lantern slides.

The above lecture is being delivered by Professor Coker at the request of the Science Standing Committee of the R.I.B.A., and of a number of members who are particularly interested in the subject. It is being given in Professor Coker's laboratory at University College, as this will greatly facilitate the demonstrations which will accompany the lecture. It is hoped that Professor Coker's courtesy will be acknowledged by the attendance of a large number of members who are specially interested in the subject of building construction.

In view of the limited number who can be accommodated at the lecture, will members who wish to attend please notify me at the earliest possible date?

IAN MACALISTER,
Secretary R.I.B.A.

The new Lady Chapel to St. Asaph Cathedral has been designed by C. M. Oldrid Scott, architect. The edifice will replace the old chapter house and will be in part a memorial to one of the leading laymen of the diocese, the late Hon. Laurence A. Brodric.

BECONTREE.—Messrs. J. Kay and B. Cole propose to erect a cinema and five shops and houses at Green Lane, Becontree estate.

HACKNEY.—Plans passed by Borough Council:—factory between 26 and 28 Grove Lane, for Mr. W. N. Wright; factory, 34 Bentley Road, for Messrs. R. Maskall & Sons.

LEICESTER.—The Corporation are extending the electricity works at a cost of £343,000, of which sum £18,000 is for buildings at the generating station and £27,000 for sub-stations.

Vineyard Architecture.

By E. Eales.



ST. SAPHORIN.

If it be true that the architecture of a country is determined first by its natural characteristics and then by the tastes of its inhabitants and the influences brought to bear on them, it is easy to understand the very varying forms of architecture in Switzerland.

For Switzerland is not only a land where three foreign influences—French, German and Italian—have left their mark on inhabitants, art and architecture, it is also a country of astonishing physical contrasts. Mountain and plain, river and lake, hill and dale, alternate, and by their diversity impose differing occupations upon their respective inhabitants and a consequent divergence in the forms of architecture.

A striking proof of this assertion is afforded by the stretch of country between Lausanne and Vevey, on the hillside above the Lake Lemman, a district known by the name of Lavaux, comprising five or six little villages or hamlets, engaged for centuries past in the cultivation of vines. These steep, sunny Southern slopes, dropping abruptly from sky-line to lake, have been under cultivation since the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and for generations the vine-dressers have patiently and painfully carried in their great "hottes" (back-baskets) the soil and fertilisers necessary for the hundreds of little terraces. The Cistercian monks, working for the Bishops of Lausanne, were admirable vine-dressers, and the first architectural structures to be seen on the rocky hill of Dézaley, to-day so famous for its wine, were the rude stone huts they used as both chapel and dwelling-place.

These fifteenth and sixteenth-century houses are to be found all along the vine-growing district, and, from an architectural point of view, are most interesting. The sloping ground on one side or the other permits the clearing of the cellars, access to which is generally afforded by a flight of stone steps from without, when the opening is not on level ground. The cellars are always vaulted, the wine-cellars opening out of the first cellar, in which is placed the wine-press. The entrance to the cellars is generally by a very wide door under an arch (usually Romanesque, the thickness of the wall), sometimes, as in a house at Villette, threefold and graduated, so as to bring the door to the level of the ground.

Built in stone, the vineyard country dwelling is supported on a solid wall, which gives a certain cachet to these simple

houses, cut into as it is by the great doors of the cellars and sometimes even decorated with rude carvings. The upper story is heavily beamed, and the joists and heads are often carved. The staircase is nearly always on the outside of the house, which is rarely on the street level, and the windows, grouped by ones or twos, and occasionally in a long row, are deep set in the thick masonry and framed and mullioned in an extremely simple fashion.

Yet some of these old houses are really imposing. And it is partly the roof that gives added dignity to the vine-dresser's dwelling. The development of the roof is always influenced by the climate of a country, and here in Lavaux they are so arranged as to allow as much sunshine as possible, while sheltering the entrance to the wine-presses from the heavy rains. They are two-sided as a rule, sloping sharply to allow snow and rain to run off them, and they have frequently deep eaves projecting over the front of the house; the chevrons are usually squared, and are sufficiently massive to do without brackets or struts. Many of the old houses in Lutry and Cully have also a high gable in the centre of the eaves, in the axe of the façade. A pulley in this gable enabled the inhabitants to hoist their provisions into the vast store-chamber under the roof, and to this day many Swiss farms and village dwellings use these old pulleys and employ the space under the roof as a granary.

Sculpture is but little seen on these houses in Lavaux; their end and aim being to guard and cultivate the vine from vine-stock to wine-barrel, no superfluities were permitted to the architect and builder. Yet, here and there, some old Swiss, faintly daring, has carved a date above his door or ornamented it with a brace. A nun's head in stone appears above a door in Cully, decorating the sober stone lintel. Others are surmounted by a coat of arms or some modest Renaissance *motif* does its best to add a note of beauty to the simple façade. And, as is but befitting a district where the ruins of a temple dedicated to the God of Wine and an inscription to him have been found, several door-lintels are yet to be seen carved with garlands of vine-leaves and bunches of grapes—silent witnesses to the age-long devotion of the Lavaux vine-dressers to that which has inspired their labour, their interest, and their architecture.

Present London Architecture.

By Loren H. B. Knox.

When professional architects had nothing to do with London she flowered forth in the beauty of her Gothic, Tudor and Elizabethan styles. For true architecture does not necessarily come from architects. Busy builders who designed her structures had their set types—slow growths from the soils of their periods—to which they adhered, wherein, like the Greek, elements were first for use, then adorned for instruction and amusement. True, Robert Vertue flourished his fan vaulting in the Henry VII Chapel, Westminster Abbey, as his brother William did in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, into an intricacy of lace-like tracery for embellishment solely, but that was a mere efflorescence of the essential piers and ribs, no falser than the acanthus leaves of the Corinthian capital.

But when the old vitality ebbed from the mason's guilds, intellectual designers arose, versed in Renaissance sophistication. Inigo Jones, Sir Christopher Wren and their followers knew vastly more than did their humble predecessors, for now the barbarous types of the Guildhall and Hampton Court Palace were to be eclipsed by elegancies from old and new Italy. In these copies things were not to be what they seemed. Pediments were not roofs, but were either counterfeit fronts or broken up into scrolls; engaged columns stood on nothing and supported nothing or were split in half and plastered against walls, often their Greek beauty was enhanced by square block segments; keystones were exaggerated in size, supernumerous in quantity and useless in position; all joints were religiously recessed, surfaces carefully vermiculated; porticos were pressed back, as it were, into facades; entablatures constructed to be broken; domes resembled nubbins. This mode quickly claimed ascendancy, and has preserved it until this hour.

London has ancient rights to the Norman, Gothic, Tudor, Elizabethan, Jacobean and Georgian styles, but she has relinquished those titles. She clings to that learning which teaches the application of once essential elements for ornament. So we have Regent Street, Kingsway and other regions, reborn to steel framework surfaced with various fraudulent faces. These fronts are Roman, Italian, French, and the established pretence is well suited to the new fabric, for the raw steel and cement can be hung with pediments, engaged columns, keystones, mouldings, entablatures, vanishing colonnades, to meet convention, diversify surfaces and not limit external or internal space.

Yes, there are exceptions. Some designers call this false and trivial, not calculated to impress posterity with our integrity. They, therefore, revolt, determined to be "strong," "sincere," "original," "indigeneous," as architects of the *Art Nouveau*, *Secessionist* and *Modernist* persuasions in Germany, Austria and America had back in 1890. This "vitality" now consists in hanging the same steel beams with heavy, stony masses of masonry, with cutting angles and harsh lines; Egyptian Pylon effects; streaked and down-gouged surfaces; chopped-off towers and roof-lines; alien "motifs"; distorted columns; vulgar "adornment."

In this effort at "integrity" architects tried intellectually and individually to create a style. It sprang from no soul, either individual, national, racial, or epochal, as all true types have heretofore. It is the coarse and ugly strain of mathematical minds to be aesthetically different because they were tired of the banalities of the lifeless Renaissance. It reflects our soulless period but is not compelled by it. Instead of marking originality, it seems to me to prove incapacity for originality in aesthetics.

I am impressed that London is being spoiled by both these architectural fashions. Both are bad. They flourish, it seems to me, because architects fail to understand the true basis of their art—that it, as well as the other fine arts, sculpture, painting, poetry and music, to be true must be compelled by the soul of the age. By "soul" I mean the intuitive, inspirational, idealising, symbolising, epitomising, emotional faculty. It is clear to me that this age compels

no fine art because it has no soul for any form of Beauty. All is Mind, that is Science, physical, materialised, externalised, despiritualising, utilitarian science. We are over-intellectualised by it, so have lost such spiritual values as guided, unrealised by them, those humble master masons, Robert and William Vertue. The brainiest designers to-day can only do a machine-cut imitation of the old grace. True architecture, like every other fine art, must come not from the true artist but from the folk, as Swiss chalets did.

American steel construction is true as utility, but it is false aesthetically. In three instances in London I have seen recent happy departures from the commonplace and unattractive. One is the Ironmongers' Hall, of Tudor style, off Aldersgate Street; another, the Branch Midland Bank, by St. James Church, Piccadilly, of a graceful Renaissance; the third is Liberty's completed store, back from Regent Street, of Norman beam-work type. How much the practical has been sacrificed for charm, if such has been the case, in any of these buildings, I do not know. But I feel that any possible curtailment of utility has been justified by the pleasing results, which will endure as long as the structures last. They are not true to the soulless rush and Mammon-worship of to-day, no, but nothing that is true to that spirit can be built which is not hideous. They are, on the other hand, the best that can be done. Not having soul for development of a true type of architecture, the best we can do is to "adapt" to present needs fine old types, which have bloomed from the souls and soils of past periods. Indeed, that is the way genuine modifications have always come.

Designers of the three examples named have done their remodelling of the old to suit the new with taste and harmony. That is a rare attainment. If henceforth London architects used their native styles with like intuition, they could set a good standard, and do something to redeem London's present blight of beauty.

Wembley Secrets Revealed.

The surprising revelation that the concrete terraces of the Stadium at Wembley, which have supported 150,000 persons at one time, are only 1½ inches thick was made by Mr. T. J. Clark, A.I.Struct.E., in a lecture on Friday (November 27) evening at Reigate Grammar School. Mr. Clark quoted as his authority Sir E. Owen Williams, K.B.E., the engineer responsible for the constructional work at the Exhibition, who, he said, had expressed the view that Wembley, though constructed purely as a temporary affair, might, so far as the concrete and steel edifices were concerned, quite well last for centuries. "According to Sir Owen," said Mr. Clark, "the ideas of the public regarding Wembley's construction have probably been wide of the mark, for the buildings are not so massive as is generally supposed. In the Palaces of Industry and Engineering the concrete in the outer walls, incredible as it may appear, is only 2½ inches in thickness; the buttresses, which appear so huge, are hollow. The layman who saw concrete floors bearing the weight of an L.M.S. engine, crowds of sightseers, and many stalls filled with goods, marvelled at its strength, but he will be astounded to learn that their thickness is only 4 inches." Originally Sir Owen designed the floors to be 5 inches thick, but later found 4 inches sufficient. The eliminating of that inch over all the floors of the buildings in the Exhibition saved £25,000. On the floors of the Palaces of Industry and Engineering alone £10,000 was saved. "Sir Owen assured me, however, that the public need not be nervous of the thinness of the Stadium terraces, for the thin concrete on the steel piers would stand a weight four times as great as that of the heaviest crowd the Stadium will hold. People who watched the Tattoo and football cup finals were as safe as if they were on firm ground."

TILBURY.—The Port of London Authority have decided to construct a new dry dock 750 feet long at Tilbury. The site for the proposed new entrance to the dock is still under consideration. Preliminary works for the passenger landing stage have been commenced but some modifications of design are being considered.

WALTHAMSTOW.—Essex C.C. has arranged for the construction of a swimming bath and the Walthamstow High School for Girls.

Town Planning in Scotland.

By the Chairman of a Housing Committee.

During a recent visit to some of the principal cities in Scotland, where I was most courteously received by the officials of the local authorities concerned, I was impressed with the comparative lack of interest in town planning north of the Tweed. City engineers explained that in existing circumstances, with a housing situation which appeared to be growing worse instead of better, town planning proposals had to be put on one side and their consideration postponed until the time was more opportune.

Nothing is more impressive to an English student of housing visiting Scottish industrial districts than the resolution with which housing committees and their officials are facing the difficulties of the housing situation. In some cases staffs are obviously overworked in their efforts to meet the needs, but however great our sympathy with their difficulties, no unprejudiced observer can deny that the advantages of preparing a preliminary development scheme are being overlooked in many parts of Scotland.

In England to-day about one-tenth of the area of the country has now been planned in outline. No less than 125 town planning schemes in England, representing 85 local authorities and covering 287,297 acres, are practically completed. There is, of course, time before January, 1929, when those authorities with a population of over 20,000 must submit their schemes, but it is a sign of appreciation of the value of town planning that practically half of the authorities are moving, some quickly, some slowly, but still they are not asleep.

In such industrial centres as the Tyneside, around Liverpool and Manchester, in South Yorkshire, in the Midlands, and even in East Kent, the so-called garden of England, regional and town planning schemes are well under weigh.

A regional plan has even been prepared for Dublin by Mr. Horace O'Rourke, the city architect, for the Civic Institute of Ireland. But in Scotland there is, at any rate from the public's point of view, no outstanding scheme except at Dundee.

The Scottish Board of Health have not been idle on the matter. In company with the Ministry of Health, and acting largely on their inspiration, they have circularised local authorities, explaining how industry benefits by looking ahead and deciding where future factories and workshops should be established so as to be conveniently accessible to transport facilities, and urging that much wasted money can be avoided by planning ahead.

Dundee is a noble exception. The advantages of the development plan, drawn up by Mr. James Thomson in 1918 when he was city engineer and architect, must be obvious to anyone who visits the jute city. Very few British towns, with the exception of Liverpool, can point to such a magnificent ring road as that which has been built for a length of three miles around Dundee. When completed this will certainly be one of the finest roads in the continent of Europe, with its two carriageways, tramway tracks, wide footpaths and four rows of trees.

The National East Coast Road that was advocated in his report by Mr. Thomson is another example of foresight in regional planning. This road, if it can be constructed in the present state of national local finance, will link up Aberdeen through Stonehaven and Montrose direct to Dundee, Dunfermline and Edinburgh. Road bridges over the Tay and the Firth of Forth will have to be constructed, and it is of interest to note that soundings are already being taken with the assistance of the £10,000 granted by the Government last year on the line of the proposed road bridge that may be built, utilising the old foundations of the former Tay bridge.

Mr. James Thomson is recognised by all students of regional and town planning to be a man of wise foresight and vision. Under his inspiration Dundee is rapidly

being reconstructed, so that in the future, should industry decide to take advantage of the natural facilities offered, it may increase in size without the deplorable consequences that may be observed to-day along the banks of the Mersey, the Thames or the Clyde, following the industrial revolution of the last century.

These remarks are not put forward in any spirit of superiority. Certainly no one who lives in London, and observes the way that in Regent Street architects "performing a series of acrobatic tricks in stone," can visit Edinburgh or Aberdeen or other Scottish centres without feeling deep admiration. It must, however, be recognised by those who are watching Scottish developments that the town planning spirit is not growing as rapidly there as in England.

Art Galleries and Exhibitions.

Last Wednesday at the Mayor Gallery, 37 Sackville Street, Piccadilly, the private view of Mr. Ivon Hitchen's exhibition was held; the exhibition remains open until December 19th. Mr. Hitchen exhibited some very clever paintings at the Pattersons Gallery in Old Bond Street some two years ago. At the Maddox Street Galleries some of his decorative panels were on exhibition recently. On both these occasions the Press comments on his work were of a flattering nature to the artist. Of the moderns, Mr. Hitchen's work ranks very high. He has a very fertile imagination, and in combination with a fine appreciation for colour massing and drawing he produces compositions that cannot fail to appeal to a large circle of the picture-loving public.

At the Gieves Art Gallery, 22 Old Bond Street, W.1, many of the problems created by the Christmas season can be inexpensively solved. The gallery is devoted throughout the month of December to an exhibition of the works of craftsmen, sculptors and painters. The idea of organising such an exhibition should be well supported. Albert Rowley is showing ten examples of his work, which has found appreciative admirers all over the world. The way in which he makes use of the graining of the wood to assist him in securing a happy effect is very good. The simple composition of these stained wood inlay panels could serve many useful lessons to those who are inclined to fill their pictures with a mass of details. On the adjacent wall Mr. H. H. Bulman shows a number of flower studies, each of which is a picture conveying an inspiring thought. Many paint flowers, but it is only given to the few to impart a sense of freshness and life to their pictures. The gallery contains a number of glass showcases, in which jewellery of varying character is displayed. Close to the entrance some simple designs have been executed in silver; their attractiveness lies chiefly in their correct simplicity. On the centre stand the plastic work of Mrs. Stabler and Miss Anne Acheson is to be found; both show some charming figures. The exhibits of Miss Stella Crofts fill a case. Her glazed pottery is good in quality and texture, and whilst the subjects are naturalistic they are broadly treated. Mrs. Jamieson, with Mrs. Haughton and Mrs. Agatha Walker, is showing a varied collection of figures, all executed in pottery, though some of the figures have a matt instead of glossy finish. There is a wonderful variety amongst the jewellery displayed on the end wall of the gallery; this is due to the fact that many craftsmen have sent different specimens of their work to the exhibition. Messrs. Whitney Smith, Harold Stabler, John Angel and Cecil Thomas, with Miss H. Ainscough, have contributed a number of clever statuettes to the exhibition. These sculptors are all well known for the refinement they incorporate in their work. One group, of a mother and child, by John Angel, is specially worthy of notice; the composition is original and pleasing.

Book Notes.

"Damp Walls." By Ernest G. Blake, M.R.S.I., etc. (London: Crosby Lockwood and Son. Second edition. 8s. 6d. net.)

This is a well-written and a well-illustrated book of 250 pages, dealing with a subject whose importance cannot be exaggerated, and one is not tempted to dissect or analyze the text to any great extent, being generally satisfied to express approval.

It might, however, be pointed out that it is rather curious to advance, as the principal advantage of an exterior anti-damp application, "that less inconvenience is caused to the occupants of the premises"; really, the principal advantage is, that the wall itself is thus kept dry, instead of having a damp wall with a merely impervious inner surface. But, of course, where the damp course is in fault, an interior treatment of surface is more desirable; it is deplorable to suggest (as on page 67) that "with inside treatment the provision of a damp-proof course is not necessary, and equally satisfactory results can be arrived at without going to so much trouble." What exactly does the author mean on pages 98-99 in saying that cement rendering "should be reserved for fine weather whenever it is possible, so that neither frost nor sun will be likely to interfere with the regular setting of the cement"?

But it is a book, as noted above, to be recommended for the library of the architect, the house owner and others interested in property.

"A Manual of Technical Plumbing." By S. Barlow Bennett. (Stockton-on-Tees: John Harrison; London: B. T. Batsford, Ltd. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. 9s. 6d.)

This is evidently written by one well acquainted with his subject, and willing to impart to others from the stores of his knowledge what he considers may be of value to them. And whilst we readily recognise his grasp of the subject and his fairly lucid methods of presentation, we cannot but deprecate the lack of grace displayed in the style, the carelessness in composition and, at times, the want of agreement between the text and the illustration; not infrequently is it the case that a figure referred to in the text is absent from the book, and compositor's errors are too often in evidence.

The treatment of the subject makes it apparent that the book is intended to appeal (and it evidently *does* appeal) to students, and it is a good feature that each chapter should conclude with a series of questions for the purpose of testing the student's grasp of the previous pages. So too are to be recommended the various experiments detailed by the author for research upon divers points.

It would take too much time and space to detail categorically the many good items of information in this book; and though it may seem ungracious, we propose rather to select matters for animadversive criticism, as by this means a chance is furnished for their rectification in a future edition. We have with some care perused the book and made copious references for good and otherwise; but it is possible, of course, to make only a selection to be dealt with here.

We can find no reference in the book to bronze, and should have expected to find it on page 48, amongst the copper alloys. It is an accepted standard that each adult should be allowed 1,000 c. ft. of air space in a room with provision for a complete change of air three times in the hour, thus providing 3,000 c. ft. of fresh air per adult per hour; yet on page 58, though Mr. Bennett advocates 3,500 to 4,000 c. ft. per hour, he only allows 400 to 480 c. ft. of room space, which would entail a change of air of about eight times in the hour, which is much too violent.

It is not advisable to use the terms "expansion pipe" or "exhaust pipe" to the whole length of rising main from the cylinder; this is known as the "flow pipe," justifying the former terms only after the highest draw-off is passed (see pages 103 and 105). Again, glancing at pages 121 and 189, it is a mistake to recommend a three-gallon

flushing cistern when the water companies are bent upon preventing its use, except with extra charge; and on the former page there is no mention of copper as a material for bath construction. It is misleading (nay, incorrect) to state on page 133 the L.C.C. regulations as to anti-siphonage pipes, for the bye-law refers only to w.c. treatment, not to baths, lavatories or ordinary sinks.

One and a half inch or two inch dribble pipe from a w.c. lead safe is much too big (p. 138); and why the author should approve the apparatus shown in Fig. 2 (p. 141) is a mystery, for it holds no water and the sides are bound to get fouled. It is curious, too, how he habitually (and with the rarest exceptions) refers to earthenware, and not to stoneware. Plate VI (p. 211) is not a parapet gutter at all; it is a trough gutter.

There is no wish to depreciate this book, nor is it well to specify any one chapter as better than another when the general tenour is so practical and illuminating and the sincerity so obvious.

"The Roman Alphabet and its Derivatives." By Allen W. Seaby. (B. T. Batsford, Ltd. 8s. 6d. net.)

The art of good lettering is not, as many seem to think, the outcome of a modern development. The inscriptions at the base of the Trajan column (*circa* 117 A.D.) have for centuries been the fountain source upon which the best craftsmen have modelled lettering. From time to time artists have been tempted to introduce modernisations which have at once led lesser men to take liberties, with the result that some lettering is only worthy of note because it is illegible. If we examine the fundamental impulse that leads men to resort to inscriptions and the use of letters, we shall find that it arises from the desire of one or many to make known a fact to others. Therefore, so as to best accomplish this purpose, it must be admitted that the more legible the letters, the greater are the chances of success. No types have been invented or designed which are more legible than those to be found on the base of the Trajan column. An examination of the cast of this base at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, will disclose the individual beauty of each letter, which expresses magnificent proportions, balance and poetry of design. In the above book, Mr. Allen W. Seaby has prepared a number of large scale drawings of the Roman alphabet. These are accompanied by descriptive letter-press relating to each letter. The author has made a very careful examination of the characteristic features of each letter of the alphabet, and in the plates which illustrate these beautiful types. It will be seen and realised that nothing mechanical could have been used in their original creation, but that they are the outcome of a master mind expressing his wishes in a free style and manner.

Obituary.

We regret to announce that, after a brief illness, Ernest Sewell Gale, F.R.I.B.A., architect, of 101 Sutton Court, Chiswick, died on November 27 last. Mr. E. S. Gale was appointed lecturer at the Architectural Association in 1888, he was hon. sec. to that Association from 1889-1902, vice-president of the A.A. in 1893. He studied at Newcastle-on-Tyne and at the Architectural Association Schools. He commenced to practise in 1885, and later became the senior partner of the firm of Ernest Gale & Durlacher. Of the many buildings designed and carried out by the partners the following are perhaps amongst the most noteworthy: Houses at Liphook, Hants, and Holly Croft, Ewell, Thames Ditton; the Seaman's Home, Limpsfield; Chart; the Cinema Theatre, Edgware Road; and the City offices of the Scottish Life Assurance Company, Ltd.

ACCINGTON.—The management of the Victoria Hospital are proposing extensions to their institution estimated to cost £40,000. The plans are being prepared by the Borough Surveyor, Mr. Newton, F.R.I.B.A., Town Hall, Accrington.

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General News.

BARNSELY.—The Wesleyan Methodist Trustees are proposing the erection of a combined chapel and Sunday-school on a site in Huddersfield Road, Barnsley. The architect for the scheme is Mr. W. T. Turner, Westville Road, Barnsley, who will shortly be inviting tenders.

MANCHESTER.—Plans passed by the Manchester Council include the following:—S. Gardner, revised plan of steelwork to shops and offices, Deansgate and Longworth Street; architect, A. R. Parker, 9 Albert Square.—W. Sharples, dwelling house, Tan Yard Brow, Gorton; architect, A. W. Potter.—Board of Management, additions to Skin Hospital, Quay Street and Byrom Street; architects, T. Worthington & Sons, 178 Oxford Road, Manchester.—Alterations and additions to premises, Brook Street, London Road; architect, E. D. Sherlock, 17 Lever Street.—Manchester and Salford Savings Bank, Ltd., conversion of shop into bank, 143 Stockport Road, Levenshulme; architects, A. W. Beaumont & Sons, 24 Brazenose Street.—W. Wrow, revised plan of two lock-up shops, Ashton Old Road, Openshaw; architects, Thorpe and Collier, 66 Deansgate.—Rev. J. Wareham, redeposited plan of church, Hazeldean road, New Moston; architects, Preston & Martin, 90 Deansgate.—G. W. Broadman, 10 houses and revised plan of 4 houses, Mordlan Avenue, Crumpsall; architect, J. Dalby, 104 Horton Road, Rusholme.—J. Tetley & Son, Ltd., alterations and additions to Mechanics Arms, Sherbourne Street and Barker Street, Cheetham; architects, Kitson Parish & Ligard, of Leeds.—Messrs. N. Hamer & Ors, revised plan and section of fourth floor offices, Turner Street and Back Turner Street; architects, E. Gorson, 49 Deansgate.—E. W. Hardy, alterations to premises, 26 Corporation Street and Macdonalds Lane; builders, G. Macfarlane & Son, High York Street.—Connollys, Ltd., wire-drawing room to works, Blackley New Road, Blackley; architects, S. H. Burgess, Cross Street, Sale.—Cleveland Petrol Products, Ltd., office and petrol station, Cheetham Hill Road, Cheetham; own architects.—Suburban Building Co., dedication plan and section of new street—viz., Auston Grove, Monica Grove, Rusholme, and plan of 10 houses to be erected on the site.—F. W. Wolfenden, 16 houses, Old Hall Lane, Rusholme; architects, Mr. H. V. Dyson, 48, Bridge Street.—Moss Side Mart and Garage Co., additions to premises, Denmark Road, Chorlton-upon-Medlock; architect, Mr. A. Macdonald, 71 Meadow Street, Moss Side.—The Senate, additions to library, Manchester University, Burlington Street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock; architect, Professor A. C. Dickie.—Manchester University, School of Art.—Rev. R. W. Baleing, St. Crispin's Rectory, Park Road, Withington; architects, T. Worthington & Sons, 178 Oxford Road.—A. Collyshore, alterations to premises, Bridge Street and Welbeck Street, Hulme; architect, A. Macdonald, 71 Meadow Street, Moss Side.—S. Patterson, 6 houses, Fowey Road, and Huyton Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy; own architects.—M. Dunn, 4 houses, Northfield Road, New Moston; architect, R. Macgowan.

ST. PANCRAS.—The Borough Council report that the scheme for the improvement of the Somers Town area is being undertaken without State assistance, and that it proposed to erect 70 flats.

NEW MILTON.—Hampshire County Council have purchased a site at Old Milton Road, New Milton, for the erection of a police station.

PARK PREWETT.—Hampshire County Council have voted £1,300 for extensions at the laundry at Park Prewett Mental Hospital.

SEAHAM HARBOUR Urban District Council recommend, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, the tender, £21,560, of Messrs. Cairns & Son, of Penshaw, for the erection of 56 A2 type houses in blocks of eight on the Carr House estate.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—The Corporation have passed plans by Mr. F. W. Newby, architect for Messrs. Henderson Bros., for the lay-out for 104 houses at Harton Moor, and by Mr. Howard Hill, architect for Messrs. J. T. Armstrong, for the lay-out of 36 houses off Harton Lane.—Messrs. J. H. M. Orton & Son are to erect, for the Rev. Cecil Booth, a mission church in King George Road.

SOUTH SHIELDS Corporation have now accepted the tender, £164,667 12s. 10d., of Messrs. Gustavus Bailey, Ltd., of South Shields, for the erection of 356 houses on the Cleadon Park estate.

SURREY.—The County Council have approved a revised scheme for the new County Sanatorium at a cost of £198,000. Accommodation is to be provided for 300 patients.

UXBRIDGE.—Plans passed:—10 shops, St. Andrews, for Mr. James Ellis; dairy, Cowley Road, for Mr. W. F. Burton.

WESTMINSTER.—The City Council propose to invite the

R.I.B.A. to nominate an architect for the proposed public library in Orange Street.

WILLESDEN.—Plans passed:—6 houses, Elm Way, Neasden for Mr. G. A. Sexton, offices and stores, High Road, Kilburn, for Mr. H. Austin Hall, for Gas Light and Coke Co.; 6 houses, Elm Way, Neasden, for Mr. F. Cattram; factory, North Circular Road, Cricklewood, for Messrs. Allen, Liversidge & Co., Ltd.; 6 houses, Doyle Gardens, for Messrs. Jermy & Son.

WILLESDEN U.D.C. have accepted the tender of the Corolite Co. for the erection of 100 concrete houses on the Brentfield Estate at the following prices:—10 A type at £513, 28 A type at £494, 26 B type at £555, and 36 B type at £543 13s.

WILNCOTE.—Warwickshire Education Committee have decided to erect a mining school at Wilncote. It is also proposed to build a mining school library at a cost of about £1,200.

Building Progress in and near London.

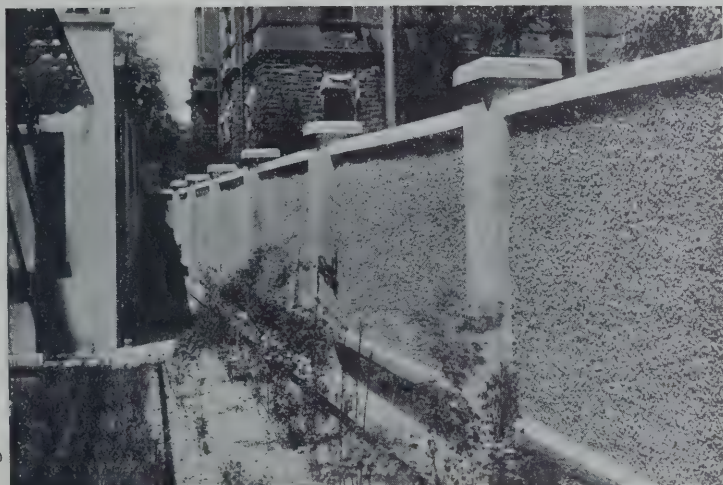
There seems to be some confusion attendant upon any attempt to distribute properly the responsibility for the block of buildings in Regent Street quadrant, running immediately north-west of Air Street. Nos. 72-74 seem to be one contract, 76-78 seem to be another, and then we arrive at the Quadrant Arcade portion, which apparently includes 80-82, together with 11-13 and 15, Air Street and 25-27 Glasshouse Street; whilst 84-88 Regent Street seem to form yet another contract. But when regarded from Glasshouse Street itself a different distribution seems to be demanded. However, we understand that Mr. Gordon Jeaves is the architect for the Quadrant Arcade section, for which Ford and Walton, Ltd., are the general contractors; Moreland, Hayne and Co., structural steelwork; Caxton Patent Hollow Fire-resisting R.C. floors; and Pollards, for shop fittings. Nos. 72-74, to be opened by Messrs. Stewart and Co. as the Quadrant Restaurant, have Howard & Co. as general contractors; Young & Co., structural steelwork; Damer Brothers, for masonry; Crittal & Co., metal windows; Damman & Co., parquet floors. Nos. 76-78 also have Howard & Co. as general contractors, and F. Sage & Co. for shop fittings. Nos. 84-88, etc., have Bovis, Ltd., as general contractors; Somerville-Barnard, Ltd., structural steelwork; Empire Stone Co., cast stonework; Ragusa Co.'s asphalt; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, artesian wells; Haskins Brothers, shop fittings; Rosser & Russell, for central heating; Locke and Soares, electrical work; Express Lift Co., lifts; and Haskins and Harris & Sheldons, for shop fittings.

Amongst the districts in or near London which are just now very busy in building operations must be included Willesden, where we recently noted the following amidst other active work: In Liddell Gardens, Messrs. George Ball (Willesden), Ltd., are erecting several residences (as also in Wrotesley Road close by); Mr. Climpson is acting as architect; the Parkinson Stove Co., Ltd., supply the gas fires; Erith & Co., Ltd., the Portland cement; Neville Hine & Co., Ltd., the timber; Fred Hodge, Ltd., & William Pryor & Co., Ltd., the fire-brick interiors; the "Camden" W.C. apparatus and the "Burlington" W.W.P.'s are being introduced. Mr. Curner is also building some houses in this road. The thoroughfare known as Mount Pleasant Road is in the hands of the builders, F. Thornton & Co. being particularly active, with Mr. F. S. Haynes as architect; T. Banister is carrying out the excavation; W. T. Lamb & Sons and also Erith & Co., for Portland cement; and "M.B." and "O.S.T.A." red bricks are being used. In this same road W. Glanville is erecting other houses of an attractive appearance, detached two-storied. And in Doyle Gardens further attractive houses are being erected by E. W. Jermy & Son, the Portland cement being supplied by Lawford & Sons; Duncan Mayo being the electrical engineer; "Brophyll" firebrick interiors are used. Of a different nature is the addition being made to the White Hart Hotel in Church Road, with J. F. Fisher & Sons as architects, the work not being of an important nature, however; H. A. Murphy & Co. are the builders, and G. R. Speaker & Co.'s "Eternit" asbestos cement slates are introduced for the roof. In Elmway are to be seen houses in course of erection by Cattran Brothers, the red bricks being supplied by Furness. Other houses in this road are being erected by Green Brothers, with Mr. G. A. Sexton as architect; G. L. Wilson & Co. are supplying the gas coppers and the firebrick interiors; "White Rose" independent boilers are being used; Brooks, Phillips & Co. are supplying the "Nuras" lavatory basins and the "B.P." W.C. apparatus. Finally, for the time being anyway, Messrs. Lawton & Wright are responsible for houses being erected in Chalk Hill Road.

Barclays Bank in New Oxford Street (near the British Museum) is undergoing extensions just now, with Cole Loasby & Co., Ltd., as the firm of builders employed; the extension embraces premises extending through from New Oxford Street to Hart Street; H. Young & Co., Ltd., are supplying the structural steelwork.

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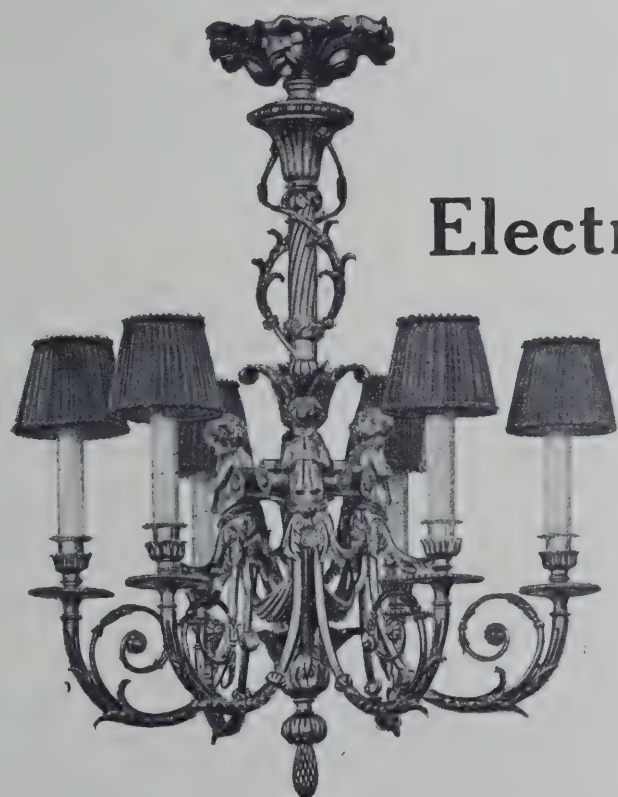
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British Industries Fairs.

Five Sections already exceed 1924 Fair Figures.

The special efforts which are being made by the Government to render the next British Industries Fair an unprecedented success are now bearing fruit. Many manufacturers throughout the country, appreciating the steps taken to attract overseas buyers in larger numbers than heretofore, and realising the facilities that the Fair affords for stimulating British trade and expanding their own business, are anxious to be represented at the Fair. Manufacturers in the watches and clocks, furniture, sports goods, chemical, and foodstuffs sections, five of the most important sections that are being exhibited at the White City from February 15 to 26 next, have already eclipsed the 1924 figures by applying for space in excess of the large amount devoted to those sections that year.

As a number of applications are still being received daily there is little doubt that further records will be broken and that the forthcoming Fair in 1926 will not only prove to be one of the largest Fairs ever held, but will also be really representative of the trades exhibited.

The interest in the Fair is by no means restricted to this country, for a very large number of overseas buyers from all parts of the world have already asked to be supplied with catalogues and invitation cards. Applications have been received from German firms for permission to exhibit. There is little need, however, to emphasise the fact that exhibitors at both sections of the Fair are restricted to genuine British manufacturing firms.

Tenders Accepted.

For the erection of a new memorial church in the Convent Grounds at Lancaster, for the Rev. Canon Harris, of Eshlaude; architect, Mr. Frank Coyle, 28 Newmarket Street, Consett. Lough Bros., Consett, £5,500.—For the erection of new elementary schools for the Education Committee, Grimsby. Steelwork: Holman & Rodgers, Manchester.—For the erection of a new open-air elementary school, in Walton Hall Avenue, Liverpool, to accommodate 1,200 children, for the Education Committee; architect, Mr. B. Widdowe, of Derby; Tysons (Contractors), Ltd., Liverpool, £41,690.—For the erection of a new Wesleyan school chapel, Liverpool, to accommodate 500 persons, at Queen's Drive, Clubmoor, for the Rev. W. A. Harrison; architect, Messrs. A. Brocklehurst & Co., Manchester: George Holmes & Co., Warrington, £6,500.—For the erection of 34 houses, at Poynton, for the Macclesfield R.D.C.; architect, Mr. George Clayton, Stockport and Macclesfield: Oldham and Kersworth, Hazel Grove (22 houses), Redfern Bros., Knutsford (12 houses).—For the erection of 200 houses on the Heston housing estate, Manchester, for the City Council; Mr. Henry Price, A.R.I.B.A., City architect: Grimshaw & Thomas, Ltd., Stretford.—For the erection of 24 houses and several other works in connection therewith on the Tank Lane site, Ormskirk, for the U.D.C.; district surveyor, Mr. W. Chadwick, M.I.M.C.E.: Barton Bros., Formby.—For the erection of 40 houses on the Oakley Estate and 26 houses on the New Inn, Crawshaw Both, site, for the Rawtenstall T.C. Plans by Mr. R. Brocklehurst, architect, Waterfoot: Ashworth & Hodgson (18 houses), C. Bradley (46 houses), H. Trickett (2 houses), at £613 per house.—For extensions to King Edward VI Grammar School, Retford, for the Governors: Steelwork, Homan & Rodgers, Manchester.—For the erection of 54 houses on the Clark's Lane site, for the Rochdale T.C. Mr. S. Morgan, Borough Surveyor: R. & T. Howarth, Ltd.—For works required for additions and alterations to the administrative block at the Swallow Nest Hospital, for the South Rotherham and Kiveton Peak District Isolation Hospital Committee; Mr. J. Haslam, architect and surveyor, Ryton Chambers, Worksop: Bramwell, Lightall & Co., Ltd., Woodhouse.—For the conversion of the Oddfellows' Hall, Stalybridge, into a cinema, for Mr. H. H. Moorhouse: E. Marshall & Sons, Ltd., Ashton-under-Lyne.—For additions to the Stockport Infirmary, for the Stockport Board of Guardians; Thomas Worthington & Sons, architects, Manchester: D. Eadie & Co., contractors; Armoured Tubular Co., Swinton, concrete floors.—For the erection of a new warehouse, Wellington Road South Stockport; Architect, Mr. C. Hartley, Buxton Road: Briggs & Co., Heaton Norris.—For the erection of 70 houses on the site adjoining Brockfield housing scheme, for the Swinton, Yorks, U.D.C.; Mr. H. Binks, engineer and surveyor, Council Offices: Loadley, Firth & Whittington, of Doncaster, £31,500.

BARNOLDSWICK.—A new church, which it is estimated will cost £30,000, is contemplated. The preparation of plans has been entrusted to Mr. R. Martin, the Diocesan Surveyor, 90 Deansgate, Manchester.

Fire Extinction Up to Date.

Recently we attended a demonstration organised by the Total Fire Extinguisher Co., Ltd. (of British Columbia House, 1-3 Regent Street) at Eltham. Whilst our sight was illuminated by the fires lighted for experiment, our mind was similarly illuminated by the effective action of the extinguisher. The invention, originally foreign, is being manufactured by an English company, and it consists of a dry fire-suffocating powder ejected from the apparatus by means of carbonic acid gas. The acid is held in liquid form in a seamless drawn steel cylinder, and by turning a valve it is emitted in the form of gas to the powder-container; the latter is air-tight and is fitted with a safety valve. The proprietors claim for this extinguisher that it will not freeze, evaporate or lose its efficiency, or be affected by temperature. It will deal with any kind of fire, and the demonstration showed that the fiercest blaze was magically subdued and—at least temporarily—extinguished; but we noticed that the embers still glowed warmly, and that renewed outbreaks occurred, so that in an actual operation the play of the powder upon the scene of conflagration would have to be prolonged beyond mere demonstration periods of time. We were treated to a display of what can only be regarded for the most part as surface fires, as contradistinguished from structural fires; but what we saw of the latter impressed us almost to the same extent as the effect produced on merely superficial burning. We shall watch the development of this extinguisher with considerable interest.

Manchester Cathedral.

New Peel of Bells.

Manchester's peal of ten bells were ringing from the Cathedral tower recently for the first time after many months.

The ten bells—five of which were originally cast in 1706—have been re-cast by Messrs. Gillett & Johnston, of Croydon, and have been re-hung on ball bearings in the old oak frame, but with new fittings throughout. The new bells have all been tuned on the Five-Tone Simpson principle, by which each bell is not only in tune with the others in the peal, but is also in tune with itself; that is, the hum note (octave below the strike note), the nominal (octave above), the tierce (third) and quint (fifth), are all in tune with the strike note, thus fulfilling conditions essential to a perfect musical chord. A special patent "clapper control" has been attached to the tenor (largest) bell. This device is designed to release the clapper from direct contact with the bell immediately after striking, and very greatly improves the general musical effect—particularly when attached to the tenor bell, which is the key note of the peal. The weight of the tenor is 27½ cwt., note "D," and the total weight of the peal is 115 cwt. Each of the bells has been given by different donors or bodies of donors. On No. 4 bell is an inscription which states: "I was re-cast by various citizens, 1925.—In Memoriam, Joseph Gough McCormick, D.D., Dean (1920-1924)."

"Winter Ease" Week.

The directors of the Davis Gas Stove Co. invited over 5,000 gas consumers to attend their Oxford Street showrooms recently.

The occasion of this special invitation was "Winter Ease" Week, an appropriate term as applied to the display of such labour-saving devices as "Injector-Ventilator" Gas Fires, automatic gas cookers and up-to-date coke appliances.

A large number of visitors availed themselves of the invitation. Keen interest was evinced by the women visitors in the "Coquette" coke grate, from which the ash falls into a concealed ashpan under the fire.

Tea was served to the numerous visitors each afternoon.

More Beautiful Roofs.

That there is a growing appreciation of the colour values of Old Delabole slate roofs is shown by the continued increasing demand for them. This is not surprising when it is remembered that these famous slates combine charm of colour with outstanding durability.

Among the recent buildings where Old Delabole slates have been or are being used, may be mentioned: Schools, Gun Hill, Arley; Newton Abbot Hospital; House, garage, and cottages at Kingswear for Sir A. Conan Doyle; Trent Park, Barnet, for Sir Phillip Sassoon, M.P.; hospital, Halton Camp, for the Air Ministry; Lady Astor's housing scheme, Plymouth.

CONTENTS.

The Preservation of Ancient Monuments	PAGE 415	The Last Word on Epstein	PAGE 426
The Benedictine Priory of Blyth, Notts	417	Eighteenth Century Architecture in Vevey	429
O Concretine !	421	Peterborough Cathedral	430
The Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Association	424	General News	434

The Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

While controversy is always aroused when any concrete proposal is brought forward dealing with the preservation or demolition of any old building and while the methods of the Office of Works are constantly criticised there appears to be little support for any proposal which would strike a mean between the claims of the preservationists and those whom we may term the iconoclasts.

In former ages our ancestors pulled down without hesitation what was anterior to their age and were content to replace it by work of their own time if they had the means to do so and thought they could do better. Were it not for this fact we should have to-day many more Norman buildings and fewer belonging to the later periods of the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries. We should have more Tudor buildings and fewer of those of later periods, but it cannot be denied that the balance would have been one which would not appeal to any save the archæologists in our midst. Until comparatively recently, too, there was little reason why the older buildings should not have been retained, for our population increased but slowly, sites were low in value and plentiful and increases in land values had not yet provided a great source of income for their fortunate owners.

Now, when all this has been reversed, when a large number of buildings of but half a century old are already obsolete and ill adapted for the purposes to which they are put, when increases in the value of sites have provided gold mines for their present owners, we have swung to the other extreme and wish to preserve relics of the past often for little more reason than that they are relics of that past. It is true that we are not willing to do this by the simple process of buying for the nation what public opinion thinks should be preserved for the nation, but by the easier method of restraining owners from realising the profits they could otherwise make. It may be even true that in designing some especially fine building the architect may be placing fetters on some future possessor of that property two hundred years hence, for he may by his act be creating what will very euphemistically be entitled "national property" because it is specially fine.

Unfortunately every old building we should like to see retained cannot be allotted to a new purpose which would be productive of the same revenue that the free utilization of its site would produce. An occasional old house may, like Stowe, form the nucleus of a new public school, another may serve the purposes of a golf club house or some other purpose, but for the most part it is extremely difficult to find a use for such buildings. The controversy over the City Churches is an even more difficult one owing to the enormous values of the sites and the impossibility of devising alternative uses for buildings no longer needed in their situation. Here, too, is the added difficulty that while most of the churches are described as being the work of Wren, no one of us can after comparison of some of them

with the greatest achievements of the master believe that such an authorship is more than a normal one, and no candid critic can after careful analysis truthfully say that they are really worth retaining on their architectural merits.

To our mind the position would be a more reasonable one if we took another standpoint which would involve the recognition of the principle that we should not destroy that which has association and historical value without obtaining definite architectural merit in the new building which was to replace it ; but given that, demolition should be acquiesced in not only as an act of justice to the owner of property but in the interests of architecture itself.

Love for the architectural beauties of England should not be confined to the past alone but should include that of the present and future.

Unless we are willing to take some such line as we indicate we are rather like those who are more interested in the tombstones of past ages than in the beauty and fitness of the present—a far more important consideration.

We should try to remember that to the Englishman of two centuries hence the work of the twentieth century should have as much appeal as that of the eighteenth century has to us, and that it is not antiquity alone that counts.

To the average visitor to Salisbury the Cathedral may be the chief attraction because it is well known and in the language of a tourist "one of the things to be done," but to those who are really interested in architecture and appraise it with discrimination the old houses round the Cathedral Close may provide greater satisfaction. If we are archæologists we may part up a bit of Roman brickwork on a wall much as we should the fossil bone of a plesiosaurus or pterodactyl, and we are almost certain to find such things mentioned by the painstaking writer of a careful guide ; but these things do not necessarily constitute architecture, and those who have genuine knowledge and appreciation may find equal pleasure in old and new.

We are inclined to believe that the pendulum of public opinion has now swung too far in the direction of the preservation of ancient buildings without regard to their true architectural value, just as in the middle period of last century it swung too far in the direction of destruction and that a happy mean is yet to be found.

The law which prevents an impoverished Italian family from freely disposing with historical pictures they possess has always seemed to us most unjust, and we should equally deplore similar legislation here whether directed towards the preservation of buildings or any other form of art. On the other hand, any education which will increase public appreciation of the art of both past and present ages will do good by preserving it from what is pure and unthinking vandalism.

Our Illustrations.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL, SHOWING THE EFFECT OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING.
 HOUSE AT MOOR PARK. MESSRS. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.
 HOUSE IN BOYLE FARM, THAMES DITTON, SURREY. G. ALAN FORTESCUE, Architect.
 ARRAS AND OSTEHOE. From pencil drawings by G. H. COOKE.



THE ALTAR IN THE KITCHENER MEMORIAL CHAPEL, ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.
 W. REID DICK, A.R.A., Sculptor.

Notes and Comments.

The Architectural Association Pantomime Play.

The Architectural Association play, which is entitled "The Touchstone of Architectural Explorations," will be performed at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 16, 17, 18 and 19, at the R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street. There will be a matinée on Thursday, 17th, at 2.30. Tickets are 3s., 5s. 9d. and 8s. 6d., and we are told that considerable business is being done in them on the London Stock Exchange, where they are quoted at a premium, but *bona fide* architects and lovers of histrionic art can still obtain a few on application to the Secretary, Architectural Association, 35, Bedford Square. No tickets will be given away, and applicants must pay the amounts asked or more—otherwise their applications will not be entertained. It is rumoured that several theatres will be closed on the nights of the A.A. performances as, owing to the counter attraction of the A.A. play, it is supposed they will be empty. We shall hope to give a full report of the proceedings in due course.

Scholarships in Architecture.

We give elsewhere a long list of scholarships in architecture now open in connection with various schools of archi-

ture in different parts of the country. We frequently get letters from the parents of those who wish to become architects and invariably refer them to various schools according to the desired locality. In a large number of cases the enquirer asks what is the best way of getting "a good place in an architect's office," and our answer always is to get experience and training at one of the now numerous schools first. We also inform applicants that everyone is not fitted to make a successful architect, and it is well to know a little about it before finally making up one's mind, and that a course at a school of architecture affords a good test of the student's aptitude for the calling.

Among the scholarships offered it seems a pity that what we might entitle a "getting out" scholarship should not find a place—that is, a scholarship which would provide some young architect who has made a mistake a little time and money for launching out in a new direction, as our ranks include some men who have undoubtedly "missed their vocation," but who cannot for lack of means and opportunity retrace their steps. Some of these men might in time become the architect's patrons instead of ending as unsuccessful architects.

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PETERBOROUGH
SHOWING THE EFFECT

EMBER 11th, 1925.



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CATHEDRAL.
ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING.

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HOUSE AT MOOR PARK.
LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, ARCHITECTS.

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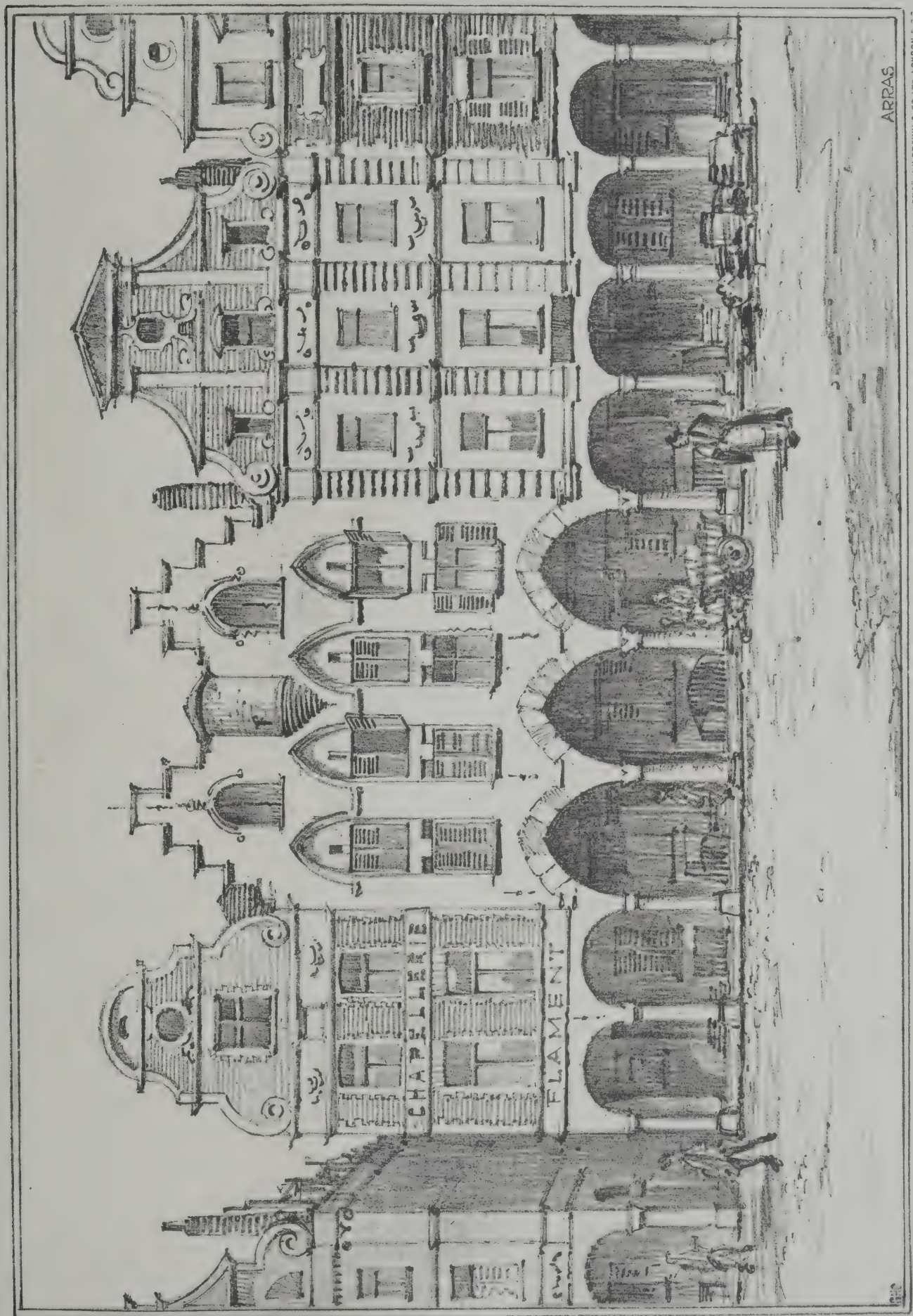


Neville A. Glyn.
Suff.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. L. LINDSAY

HOUSE IN BOYLE FARM, THAMES DITTON, SURREY.
G. ALAN FORTESCUE, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

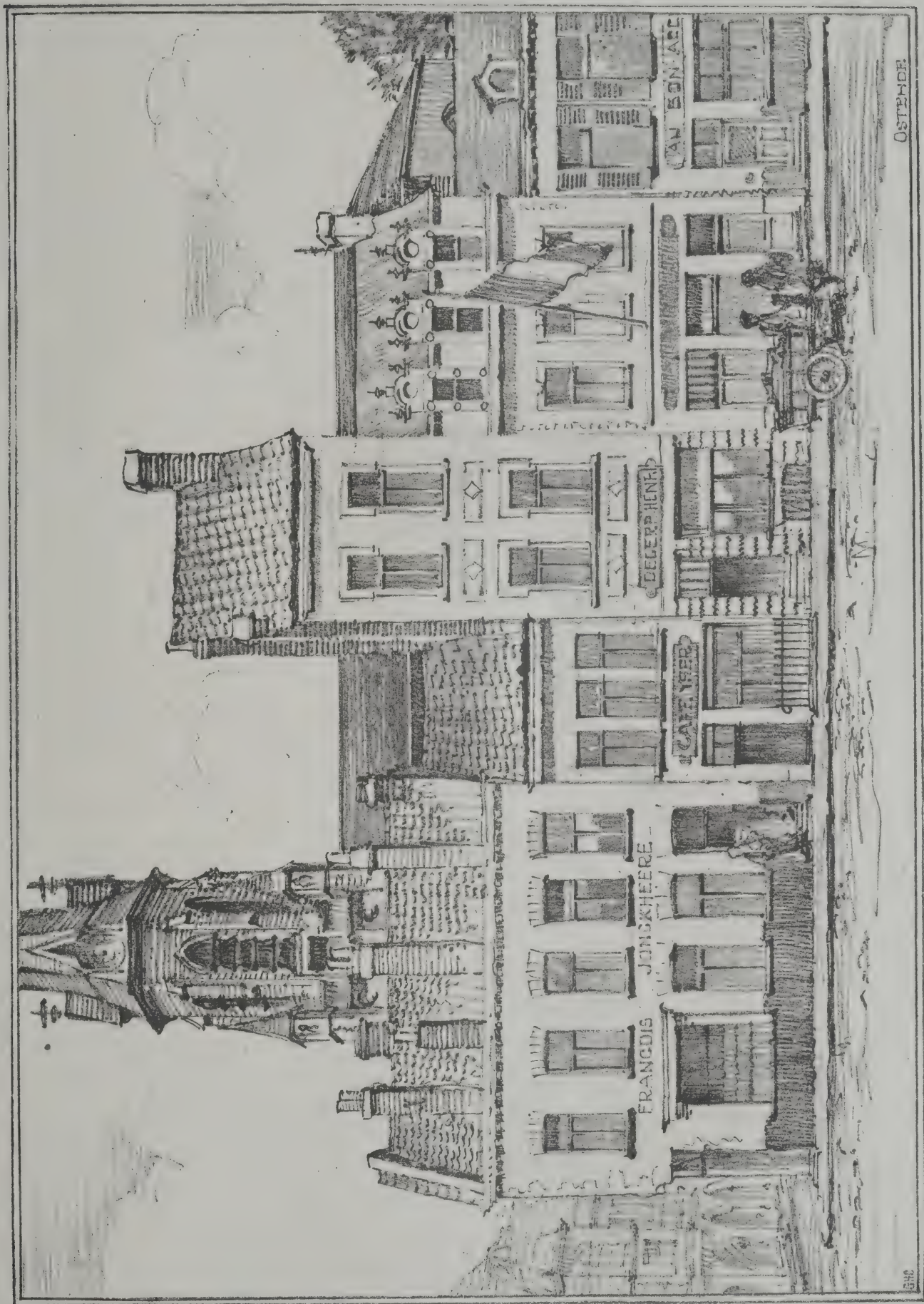
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ARRAS. FROM PENCIL DRAWING BY G. H. COOKE.

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OOSTENDE

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The Benedictine Priory of Blyth, Notts.

By P. M. Andrews, A.R.I.B.A.

Among the lesser evils that resulted from the Norman Conquest can be counted the institution of alien priories. The Norman lords, to whom the land of England had been parcelled out, were accustomed to give manors with or without priories to foreign houses. In the latter case a cell was usually founded which owed allegiance to the Mother House abroad, and in the case of the priory, the whole community, including the superior, were placed under the domination of the foreign house.

Such an arrangement was bound to result in confusion, friction with the diocesan, and unpopularity with the neighbouring inhabitants. These alien priories can roughly be divided into two classes, known as dative and conventual. In the former, the house was simply an offshoot of the larger institution abroad, which appointed its superior and in many cases selected the inmates, who acted as stewards of their English possessions. In most cases they were small institutions. The conventual class were the more important and included the Cluniacs, and to some extent, the Cistercian and Premonstratensian Canons. These held their own property, and while acknowledging the supremacy of the alien monastery could elect their own superiors and admit or remove monks at will. These alien priories were always a thorn in the side of the English Church. As the country gradually freed itself from French influence and the King of England was ceasing to be the Duke of Normandy, the anomalous position of these priories increased. Edward II, in order to satisfy his favourites, seized their lands. Edward III restored them. Henry IV took them over and appointed priors himself, and finally Henry V dissolved all that were not conventual, and their lands became crown property.

The Benedictine Priory of Blyth, in Nottinghamshire, was an alien house occupying a position midway between the dative and conventual status and survived the dissolution

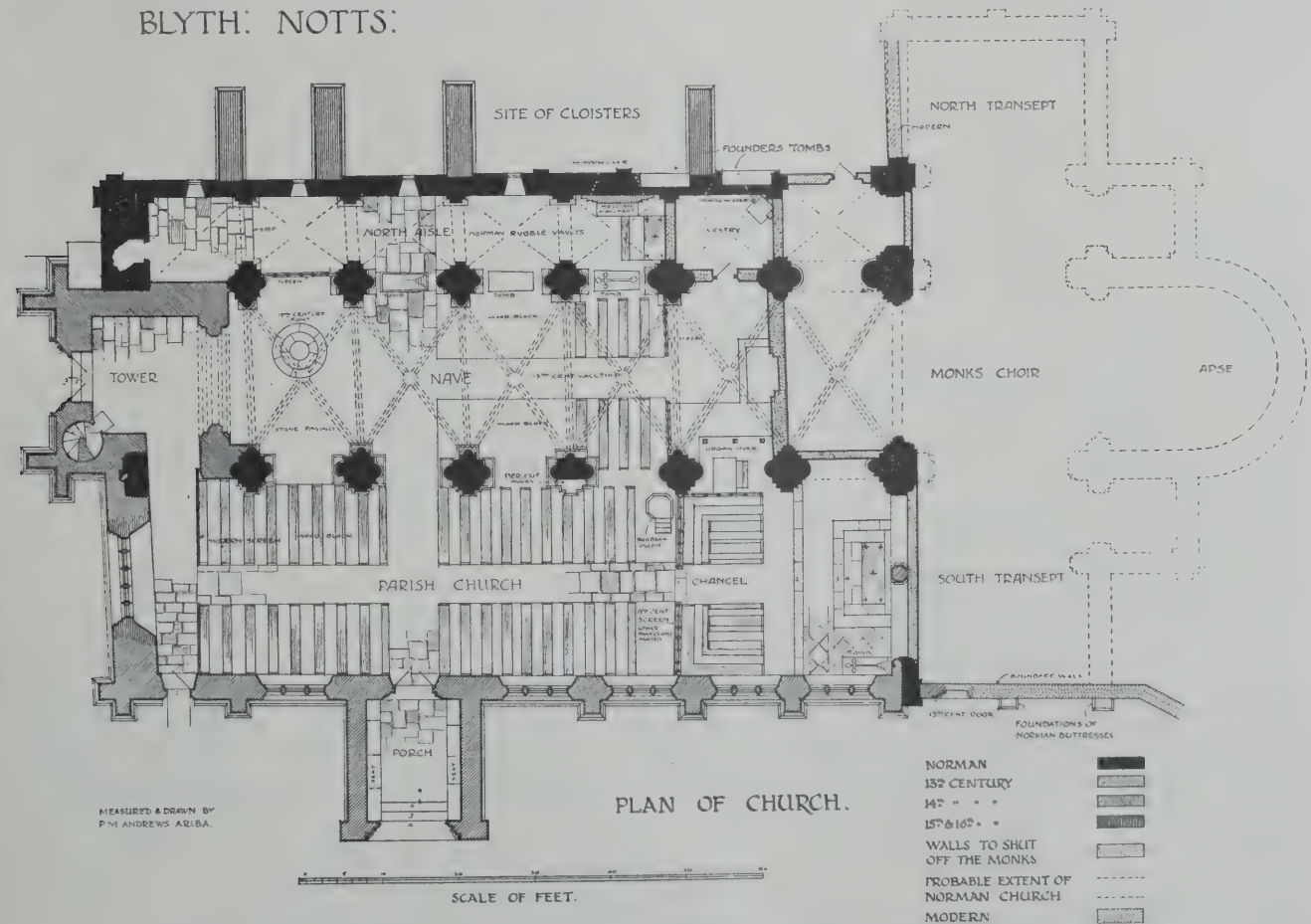
of Henry V, only to go down in the greater visitations of the sixteenth century.

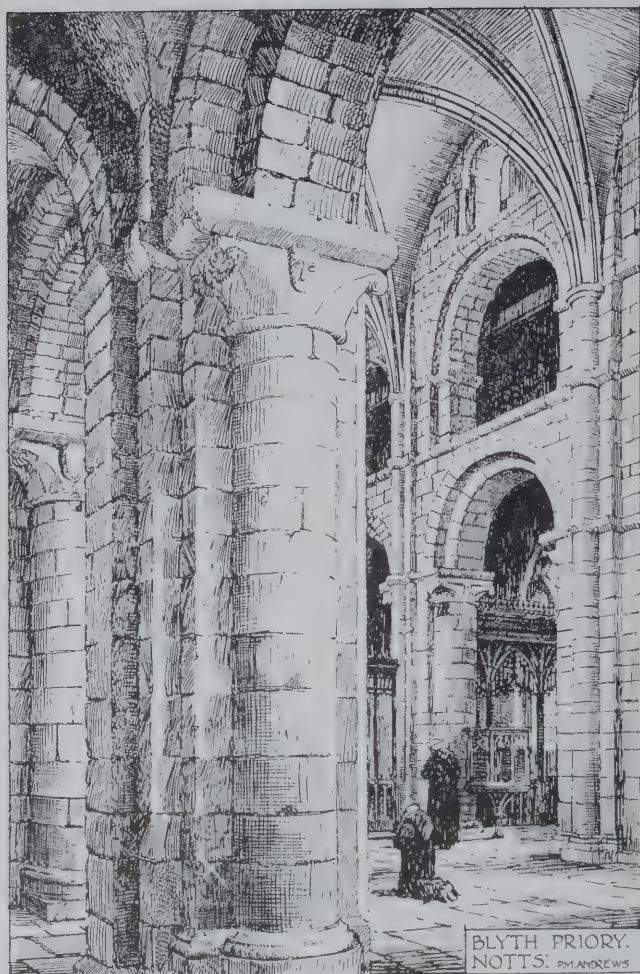
Roger de Buili, who was one of William's barons and who fought by his side at Hastings, was granted many lands in Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire and became Lord of the Manor of Tickhill. He, together with his wife Muriel, founded in 1088 a priory for Benedictine monks at Blyth in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The charter gives to the monks the town and "vill" of Blyth, also toll and passage on the main roads, the right of civil and criminal jurisdiction, fairs and markets, as well as tithes and properties in various other places. From these, funds were to be provided for building the priory, food and clothing for the monks and a yearly subscription of forty shillings in English money to the Church of the Holy Trinity at Rouen. The founder took his name from Buili, near Rouen, and so for nearly three centuries Blyth was closely connected with that town, and the appointment of the prior was vested in the abbot of the Holy Trinity.

The church of Blyth, as it stands to-day, is of peculiar form and to understand fully its plan some small knowledge of its history is essential. It is really two churches in one, the conventual priory and the parish church of the village. The jealousy between the secular and religious orders in the Middle Ages was acute, and the throwing of them together, as in this case, under one roof, resulted in such friction and strife that it was found eventually necessary to shut off completely the one from the other.

There had evidently been trouble of this kind during the thirteenth century, for in 1287 an agreement was drawn up between the prior and convent of Blyth and William Flecham, the vicar, that certain properties should be released by him to the convent; in return for which, he and his chaplain should annually for 24 days be arrayed solemnly in the choir and be provided for and have "homest

PRIORY: CHURCH: OF: S. MARY.
BLYTH: NOTTS:





refection," also a house to live in and a new robe every Easter. This William Flecham was the first vicar and soon after his agreement with the monks he enlarged the south aisle and so formed the nave of the parish church.

An entry in the Hundred Rolls gives an instance of how the convent attempted to claim its right of sac and soc, that is, criminal jurisdiction. A thief had been caught by the Blyth bailiffs in the market and Peter de Parkes, the steward, took him out of their hands and removed him to Tickhill Castle, whereupon the prior claimed that the thief should be tried at his court at the priory. The captors agreed to hand him over on the payment of five shillings. This the prior refused to pay and before further negotiations were possible the unfortunate man was immediately hanged at Tickhill. The prior and his congregation were greatly incensed, but as the man was already dead they could do no more.

An interesting return of the exact state of the priory was made in 1379, together with revenues and expenses. From it we learn that besides the ordinary officers and community, there were two chaplains, an ex-prior, who is described as fat and consuming as many victuals as would satisfy two ordinary men, a clerk for the church, a clerk in attendance on the prior and his house, a steward and his clerks and a serjeant-at-arms. There were nine secular persons in receipt of corrodies, that is, an allowance of food and clothing due to the king for the maintenance of his servants. Besides these there were other servants, including a cook for the prior and his guests, a baker and assistant, a butler and a horse servant. All this is rather difficult to square with the rule of St. Benedict and only serves to show how the religious orders were degenerating and preparing for themselves the blow that was to destroy them for ever. The yearly expenses for hospitality were estimated at £10, a rather high figure, but it must be remembered that the priory was on a highway and the neighbouring tournament ground would have attracted guests of expensive habits.

Despite the fact that the monastery was responsible to the Abbey at Rouen, the Archbishop of York sometimes

made it his business to visit at intervals, and on one occasion towards the end of the thirteenth century, he found a good deal to criticise. The rule of silence was not being strictly enforced. The prior was too lax and he was ordered to be present in "dorter, frater, quire, chapter and collations." The monks were not to receive money for furs and finally no drinking was to be allowed after Compline.

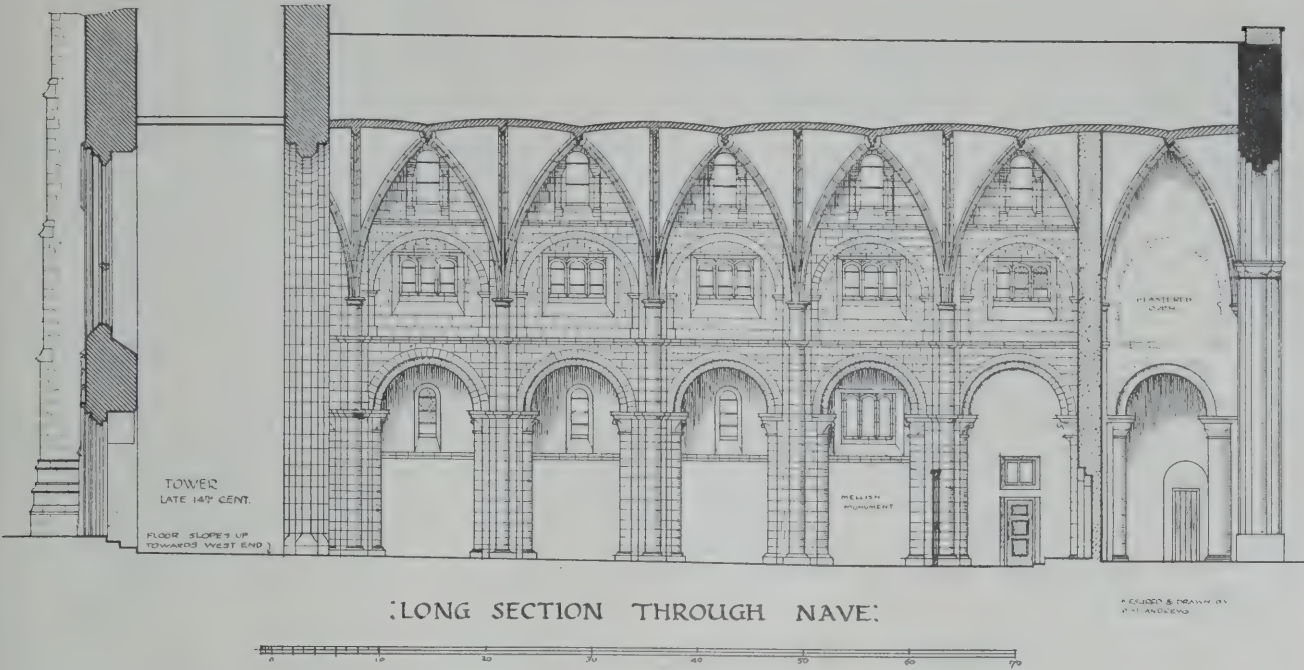
One of the difficulties of the place was that the monks were largely foreigners and looked upon their residence at Blyth as banishment, and also the more unsatisfactory members of the foreign Abbey were sent over here as a form of punishment, for we find in 1291 the archbishop sent back one of the monks for most unruly conduct and besought the abbot to send no more of that character. John de Belleville, another monk, asked to be sent back on account of the climate, but his request was not granted. Later on, however, he was returned on account of intolerable behaviour and being the cause of quarrels. It would seem that that was the most effective way of getting himself removed, for previously he had been commended as a man of excellent character. The archbishop repeated his request that only well-behaved monks should be sent to Blyth. It is not to be wondered at that breaches of discipline should have occurred when the rival authorities were trying to get rid of their bad characters in this fashion.

The trouble evidently came serious in the fifteenth century, for, though no direct evidence is available, it was found necessary to segregate the convent completely from the parish church by building the great screen walls that still enclose the east end of the church. These will be described later.

The war in France severed for a time the priory's connection with Rouen and brought the presentation of the title into the king's (Henry IV) hands, and from 1402 onwards the appointment remained with the king. At the Visitation, Blyth was rated among the lesser houses, those under a yearly income of £200, and was dissolved in 1536. Cromwell's commissioners, Legh and Layton, visited the house and, if their report is to be believed, they found a shocking state of things. How far these charges were true it is impossible to say. The celebrated "Black Book" that was laid upon the table of the House of Commons and inspired such disgust and anger was destroyed by Bonner in Queen Mary's reign, together with all discoverable copies, and the only evidence remaining is what is contained in the reports and state papers and these are often contradictory. The yearly income was declared to be £180 and the dispossessed prior George Dalton was granted a pension of twenty marks a year. What happened to the monks is unknown, there being no record of pensions to them. This seems to have been the rule in the case of the smaller houses, which being the first to suffer, were treated more ruthlessly than the greater ones.

The priory buildings and lands were given in 1543 to Richard Andrewes and William Ramsden, who were at once granted license to alienate them to Richard Stansfield and his heirs. Various families succeeded to or bought the property and so encroached on the church that now the whole of the east and north sides are in the confines of Blyth Hall, which stands upon the site of the ancient monastic buildings.

The date of the foundation being 1088, the work of building the monastery began at once and was completed within five or six years. The church consisted of a nave with two narrow aisles, transepts and eastern apse. Almost certainly a low square tower covered the crossing. The nave and north aisle still remain, as well as the western arch of the central tower. Blyth is one of the earliest examples of Norman architecture. Westminster and Lanfranc's Canterbury, had been completed; Old St. Paul's, Winchester, and Worcester were building at the time of its foundation; while Chichester, Durham, Ely, and Gloucester followed within a few years. The Saxon masons, who undoubtedly carried out the work, though, of course, under Norman supervision, have left their stamp upon it, both in the rudeness of the carving and the in-



LONG SECTION THROUGH NAVE

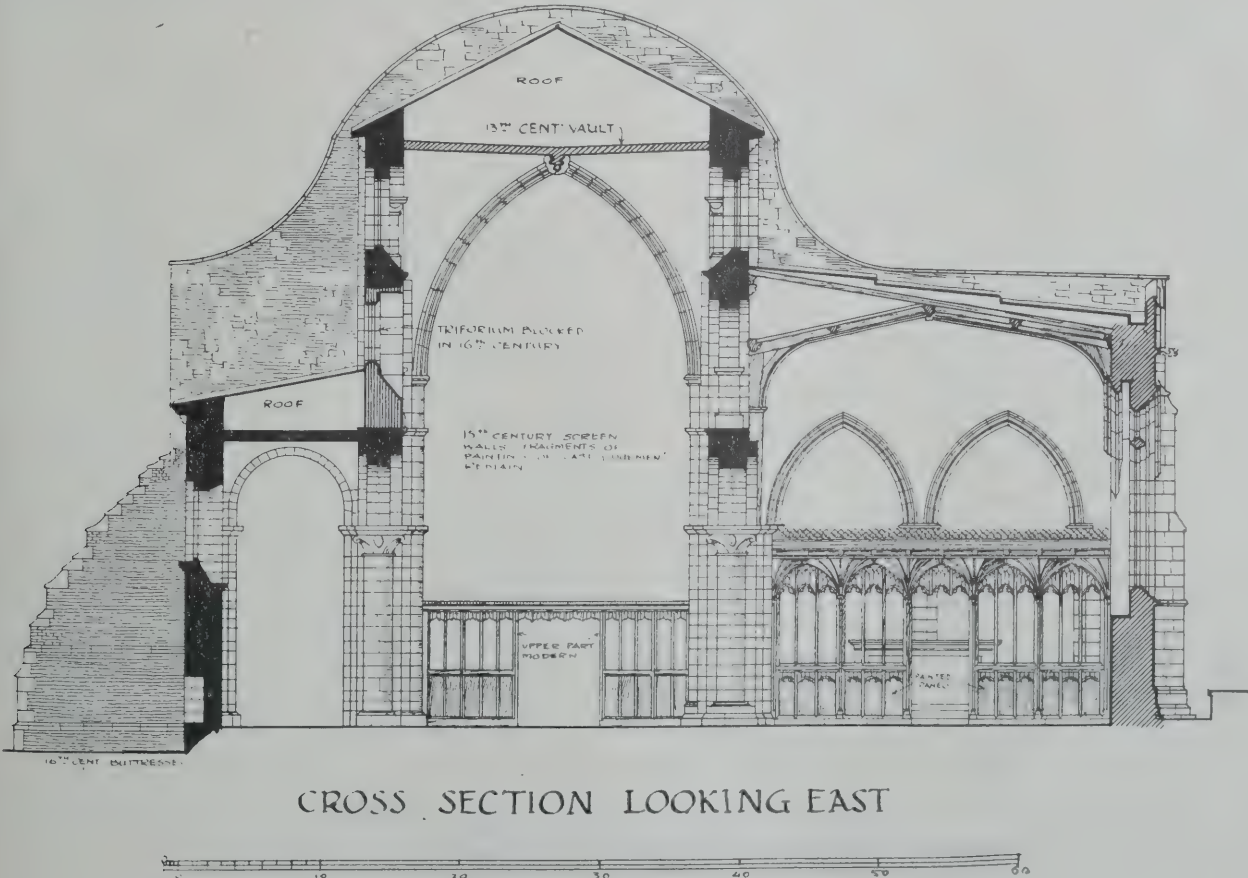
accuracy of the setting out. Half round shafts are carried up through arcade, triforium and clerestory, but, as in all early Norman buildings, the vault was never attempted, and a flat wood ceiling took its place. The aisles were roofed with rough rubble cross barrel vaults, plastered over and strengthened with transverse arches springing from responds against the wall.

The first change was the removal of the wood ceiling and the substitution of a ribbed stone vault. This took place about 1240. No attempt was made to alter the existing work, except to cut down the semi-circular shaft and insert a moulded cap at the lower level, the rest being buried inside the new vaulting.

In 1287, when William Flecham was vicar, the narrow south aisle was pulled down and a new aisle formed some 4 feet wider than the nave. Its width was determined by the south wall of the transept, the buttress of which still

remains. The round Norman arches leading to this transept were removed and the pointed arches springing from the octagonal shaft took their place. This early English addition supplied the villagers with a parish church of their own and made them more independent of the monks. The south porch, which had previously been added early in the century to the old Norman aisle, was taken down and rebuilt in its present position.

No further additions were made until towards the close of the fourteenth century, when the great west tower was put in hand. The west front of the monks' nave was destroyed and the tower set out so as to come partly within the building. This is a very grand structure, about 80 feet high, and shows strong perpendicular influence. It has an elaborate west door with a three-light transomed window over, flanked by niches, but the figures of which have now disappeared. Between this and the belfry windows the



CROSS SECTION LOOKING EAST

walls are of plain ashlar, the whole being crowned by a very graceful parapet broken at the angles and centre by tall pinnacles. It is all of excellent design and the concentration of ornament at the vital points is enhanced by the severity of the plain surfaces and fine and massive outlines.

Soon after the tower was complete, early in the fifteenth century, the quarrels between the monks and the parishioners became acute, and although each had their separate churches, it was decided to divide them still more effectually. This was done by building a solid wall across the nave and north aisle one bay west of the crossing, filling in one bay of the parish church and separating the church itself by another wall across the Early English arches west of the south transept. These screen walls were carried right up to the crown of the vault without any openings or ornamental features except a small doorway, now built up, at the end of the nave. They were plastered over and a large painting of the Last Judgment filled the space at the end of the nave. The walls remain, but the painting has disappeared, except for small traces which are quite insufficient to indicate the form. Altars were probably placed on either side of the central door.

As the monks' choir was now virtually a separate building, it became necessary to form a chancel to the parish church, and this was effected by the erection of a wood screen two bays west of the new wall. This screen has survived and the painted figures which occupy its lower panels have been identified. Another screen crosses the old monks' nave, but this has been much restored and only the lower part is original.

Almost the last alteration to the church was the insertion of the late perpendicular windows in the west wall of the south aisle. This took place in 1491, and its object was probably to house some new glass; that being a not infrequent reason for the alterations of earlier windows to make room for the more square-headed type that glass painting evolved.

After the dissolution, the monastic buildings were gradually destroyed, and the danger that threatened the old Norman north wall, after the removal of the cloister, was met by the construction of four gigantic buttresses in brick with stone dressings. At the same time the aisle roof was lowered and the triforium was filled in with elliptical headed Tudor windows.

The segregation of all the eastern parts of the monastic church by the erection of the partition walls left it an easy prey to the predatory instincts of the seventeenth century. Edward Mellish, whose family took over the property in 1635, pulled down the old Hall and anything that had been left of the priory buildings to make way for his new house. He also destroyed completely the east end of the church, including transepts and central tower, and completed his work by finishing off what was left by those strange doubled curved parapets that are such an unsightly feature from this point of view. All this was accomplished about 1684. His tomb is in the church, though now moved to the north aisle, and he is represented reclining on his side and blandly contemplating his work of destruction which he doubtless thought was of a most beneficent nature.

One bay of the nave and north aisle still remain east of the dividing wall and the tall transverse arch clearly indicates the former presence of a central tower. The shallow Norman buttress at the south-east corner of the south aisle marks the position of the south transept, and foundations of a central and angle buttress under the boundary wall, recently discovered, give a clue to the width of the transept. Jambs of an Early English doorway have also been found buried in this wall. How far the apse projected eastwards is now difficult to say, as all this part form the rockery of the Hall gardens, but John Raine, who was vicar from 1834 to 1875 and who wrote a full account of Blyth, states that he found curving foundations 60 feet eastwards of the present buildings. His figure has been taken to mark the apse on the accompanying plan and the remainder worked from it. It fits in fairly well, but nothing short of careful excavation can finally decide.

Correspondence.

Architecture and Registration.

To the Editor of ARCHITECT.

SIR,—In the Press of late one has read of the activities of the General Medical Council in connection with members of the medical profession who transgress against their rules. In one of the leading evening journals, "The Lancet" is quoted as follows: "The registered medical practitioner has no more monopoly than the registered veterinary surgeon. Exclusion from the medical register is not exclusion from practice. Hence, in the present state of the law, as Sir Donald Macalister reminded us, the man whose name is taken off the register is as free to practise as if he had not been registered, and the public is as free to employ him if they think fit. He escapes the jurisdiction of the Council, and if he has previously found difficulty in balancing himself upon the border line of the recognised professional standards which the Council exists to maintain, he is happier if that feat is no longer required of him." Many architects will be surprised to learn that the medical profession is, after all, not a protected profession. They will also realise that if popular opinion has not accorded to the medical profession concessions that would prevent an unregistered individual from practising, the chances for the architectural profession securing such concessions are very thin indeed.—Yours, etc.,

ANXIOUS.

Competition News.

COMPETITION FOR LARGER OFFICES, WEST BROMWICH PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Mr. W. Alexander Harvey, F.R.I.B.A., as Assessor in this competition.

MANCHESTER TOWN HALL EXTENSION.

Messrs. R. Atkinson, of London, Ralph Knott, of London, and Thomas R. Milburn, of Sunderland, have been appointed by the Manchester Town Hall Extension Scheme Committee as Assessors for the competition that is to take place in respect of the enlargement of the town hall. Arrangements are being made for the attendance of the Assessors at a conference with the Special Committee, when all details of the competition will be discussed and arranged.

Winchester Cathedral.

In spite of over £100,000 having been spent during the last twenty years upon the preservation of Winchester Cathedral, slight cracks still continue to take place in the walls. One of these was found recently in the crypt, but I understand that the architectural and engineering advisers to the Dean and Chapter consider that there is no reason whatsoever for alarm as to the safety of the whole structure. The precautionary measures taken to ensure the stability of the foundations before the war have secured, so as it is confidently believed, the structural safety of one of England's most treasured historical monuments. Certain discoveries are being made that may be of interest both to archaeologists and architects. For example, there are certain persons closely connected with the Cathedral who believe that at one time it possessed at least nine turrets as well as the great central tower, and during the course of the past week there have been found on the roof the possible foundations of two of these turrets. Another interesting action has recently been taken, largely on the initiative of the Dean, Dr. W. H. Hutton. For many years past a pair of wrought iron gates have been allowed to stand in the part of the Cathedral far away from their original position at the entrance to the south aisle of the choir. In mediæval days these gates stopped the pilgrims who visited the shrine of St. Swithin in the last years before the Reformation from going further into the monastic quarters. These gates are now to be replaced in their original situation.

Boyle's patent "Air-pump" ventilators have been applied to the National Provincial Bank, Neath, South Wales. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

BRAMHALL.—Mr. G. Fryer, Tenement Lane, Bramhall, is proposing to erect on a central site on the main road, 17 shops.

O Concretine !

By J. E. Reid.

I met Frinton after many years of absence, at a well-known dining rendezvous noted for the particular obstinacy of its steak and the patience of its customers. He was sitting opposite to me, and though at first I did not recognise the at-one-time-emaciated piece of anatomy in his portly presence, I knew him by his stentorian voice, which was always particularly sanguine and elated. He used to be afflicted with a malady which might vulgarly be called "concrete madness," which is a species of unintelligible indisposition, that unfolds itself in a positive assertion that concrete was going to solve all the most economic and perplexing problems that face a harassed humanity to-day. Many years ago—when I first knew him—the whole of his energies had been deposited at the shrine of his pet hobby, which was the improvement of cement and the manufacture and discovery of new forms of concrete. The success that attended his efforts I am going to relate.

Greetings were exchanged between us as a natural sequence to our fortuitous encounter, and naturally we became deeply absorbed in each other's past, present, and future. His first words at once convinced me that he had been true to his first courtship—cement—and that this alliance, judging by the opulence of his figure, had been a generous contributor to his fortunes.

"My dear Dobbs," he said confidently, "we have not got to the end of Portland Cement. As you know, it was discovered in 1824, just over a century ago. Shall we allow another hundred years to pass by and not add to Joseph Aspdin's enterprise? No, we shall not! Concrete has married steel, and from such a union you are about to witness the most surprising prodigy of the age—in fact, this offspring is ere now being rocked in the cradle of the world's desire."

Some men would have blushed at hearing this. I did not, but confessed that concrete was concrete and nothing more.

"You are prejudiced, of course; I expected as much," he exclaimed. "Let me explain that concrete is undergoing a double shuffle now and will soon be displacing every mortal thing you can think of. Now I have succeeded in harnessing it and bridling it to do exactly as I command. The great objection that people had against it has been removed."

He peered at me over his glass as if challenging his statement, but, seeing no reply was vouchsafed, he lit a cigarette and resumed:

"Do you know what the objections have been?" he demanded.

"Can't say," I replied, shaking my head, sadly. "They are so many."

"Oh, don't apologise for concrete, it needs it not. Let me assure you that it is quite respectable. No doubt you are beholding it from an artistic point of vision. But all of these drawbacks have been removed."

There was a triumphant glimmer in his eyes, and a confidential note in his voice, as he puffed a large cloud of smoke from his mouth, which arose to the ceiling like a curtain of lace.

I could not help smiling.

"Ah! You seem amused," he cried. "Suppose I tell you that I can make it as light as this smoke: yielding, malleable, tender as a woman's heart, yet as tough and as unmerciful as this piece of meat we have been trying to impress with our teeth. Some day, my dear chap, the very chair upon which you are sitting, the table with its cast-iron legs, and even the chequered-pattern cloth upon which our viands have stood, will be made of concrete. Think of it, now!"

"Hope to be in my coffin before then," I ejaculated fervently.

"You better be quick about it, for you may yet find yourself in a concrete coffin, exquisitely moulded to fit the graceful contour of your body. Even in death art will preside. The cold-looking wedge-shaped box of oak, with brass mountings and all of the trappings that suggest

the end of all things, will have been relegated to the scrap-heap. Yes, concrete coffins are coming. People when they see yours lying in a hearse, journeying to the cemetery, will exclaim: 'That coffin evidently contains the body of a very handsome man. Poor chap!'"

"Don't joke at death," I exclaimed. "See, the people are listening——"

"Think I'm a new-fangled lunatic," he interrupted, with a careless laugh, glancing around at the diners, who were regarding him askance. "Come, now," he added in a lower voice, "I have a surprise for you. You will not believe what I'm going to tell you until you see it with your own eyes. But I have built a house in the country in a way that, so far, the world has not seen. It is a concrete dwelling done on entirely new lines. When I say concrete, it is a step in advance of it, you understand. I have called it Concretine, a first cousin or near relative to concrete. Rather a catchy word, eh? The process of manufacture is naturally a close secret at present until I have the company formed to push the stuff. The house just completed will be a show place, and when we make the necessary announcement in the Press, shoals of people will break their necks over one another in their haste to inspect the house and interview me. Now, on Friday I have invited a number of the Press to visit this domicile and report upon it to their various papers. I would like you to come too if you will. I know your judgment will be sound and unbiassed. In anticipation of the event I have prepared a pamphlet containing all of the necessary data which the reporters can amplify as necessary so as to make up an interesting story. Keep it dark at present, until I give you permission to broadcast it. You *will* come," he urged. "I will show you something you have never seen before."

With these words we parted, I, promising to come and be introduced to the new house, his wife and children.

It was rather a cold day when I stepped into the train at King's Cross railway station on the Friday appointed by Frinton, and the idea of visiting a concrete abode on a chilly day naturally was not an inviting one. Still, he had some surprises for me, so he said.

I had not yet perused the document that he had handed to me at parting, containing particulars of the new Concretine. In fact, I just remembered it; so, searching in my pockets, I drew it forth, and the title nearly took my breath away. It was headed "O Concretine." At first I felt that some sentimentally sickly song had come into my possession. As a slight trace of poetry, inherited from a distant relation, tintured my blood, its presence conjured up a suitable verse to fit the title. The following lines filtered through my brain. It is a literal translation, aided no doubt by the rhythmic music of the wheels jolting over the joints of the rails:

"O Concretine, O Concretine,
My thought I cannot utter;
You're sometimes hard as adamant
Yet oft as soft as butter."

One could go on for ever, but I fortunately knew when to stop, and soon was devouring this document and found it richly seasoned with inspiring words, and concluded that Frinton had gone off the "deep end"—to use slang. I give below the opening paragraphs.

"O Concretine.

"Behold Concretine! We welcome you, messenger of the dawn, precursor of the rising sun. Concrete, the hard, selfish, stubborn and immovable, bereft of sentiment, has, at the magic wand of science, been converted into Concretine, the pliable, flexible, elastic, dictable and fixable. A new invention is about to flood the world, adaptable to subserve all the uses required under the sun. It can be made so hard that the finest tempered instrument can make no scratch, or it can be textured so soft that the merest child can manipulate and bend it. It can be made air-drawn, like the silken thread of the spider, or as gossamer as the butterfly's wing, and also ——"

I really felt annoyed that I had agreed to come. In fact, had I read this trash beforehand, I certainly would have remained behind. But it was no good repining for the train commenced to draw up at my destination. Frinton was on the platform and cordially shook me by the hand. Several intellectual-looking gentlemen also alighted who had come to be inspired by the new sensational building material. There were representatives of the architectural Press, too, with singularly impressive features as if they knew a thing or two. Frinton had several motor-cars waiting, in which they crowded, every one smoking a large cigar, which had been provided for them.

"Always be careful to get these men in a good humour," whispered Frinton as we stepped into a two-seater. "It's diplomacy. I would have treated them, but knowing that ink runs in their veins it would be bad policy to dilute it too soon. I'm standing a lunch afterwards."

The procession started, Frinton leading the way.

"Have you read the pamphlet?" he asked as we flew along the country road.

I nodded.

"Your curiosity is no doubt greatly aroused?"

"It is."

We became silent again, only the vigorous laughter from the Press could be discerned following behind. At length a tall and graceful outline of a house merged into view.

"Here we are!" exclaimed Frinton, slowing up. "Behold my abode to be."

We now alighted, so did the Press, and as we lined up in front of a pair of very heavy and imposing gates two very pretty children, a boy and a girl, came speeding down the drive towards us. The boy was dressed in very short shorts and the girl in very short skirts. They had intelligent, chubby-looking faces, and appeared to be about eight years of age. The girl was the first to reach the gates, which she opened with the greatest of ease, Frinton looking on approvingly meanwhile. The precise way this act had been accomplished convinced me that it was part of the show we had come to see.

"Gentlemen!" exclaimed Frinton proudly, as the children stood demurely side by side, "let me introduce you to my twins, Concrete and Steel."

Now I wondered which was Concrete and which Steel.

"I have called the boy Concrete because when his mind is once made up it is immovable," said Frinton. "The girl is called Steel because she is flexible and capable of a high temper. Did you notice, gentlemen, how easily Steel opened those gates?"

We certainly had noticed it and said so, which gave the father great satisfaction.

"Would you believe it when I tell you that the gate and posts are made of Concretine. Light as a feather."

"Nonsense!" I replied, incredulously. "It surely is solid polished walnut."

"Try it," challenged Frinton, delighted with the surprise his remark had evoked.

I did so, but could make no impression with a penknife. The Press made notes.

"Your first surprise!" exclaimed Frinton.

After the children had shaken hands with us all, and we had tried the weight of the gates, which were deceptively light, we passed in, and the gates were closed by Steel, who shortly after ran on ahead, chased by Concrete, until they turned aside. All agreed that Frinton had two charming children, no doubt due to living in a concrete house where they could caper all over the place without doing any damage.

We now walked up the drive in a body, the Press taking notes of the rare flowering bushes and lumps of rock artistically untidy that lined the drive on each side.

"Shall we turn aside, gentlemen," said Frinton, after we had walked a few paces, "and see what the children are doing?"

As everyone was willing, we turned aside and came to a number of rocks and a shady grotto amid a waste of what looked like sand, in which the children were playing with their spades and pails.

"All of these rocks are made of Concretine!" exclaimed Frinton. "Imitation of the genuine thing, you see. Seaweed observe growing from the rocks. The children naturally decline going to Scarborough now. This sand is cement; has not the objection to imparting a chill to the delicate legs of the children and bringing on stomachic disorders."

I put my tongue into my cheek to hide my emotion and check any outbursts that might have caused consternation.

"How they love the cement!" exclaimed Frinton enthusiastically. "I believe it is a great producer of bone."

We now drew towards the house, which appeared to be a mixture of the Italian villa and the Georgian mansion. It had lofty panelled walls and high windows divided into small lights. The heavy cornice and fantastically-tiled roof and twisted chimney stacks were imposing features. It was not an unbecoming design. We all lined up whilst Frinton pointed out its beauties.

"Gentlemen, behold the house," he said, with a swollen throat. "It is built of Concretine, steel rods and webbing. It stands before you with a story to tell of experiment and final triumph of a glorious adventure."

The Press took hurried notes so that no remark, however trivial, should escape their pencils.

"It is artistically designed," continued Frinton. "Inviting and cordial. The correct language a house should speak. You will observe, please, that the fabric is monolithic. In other words, it has been made in one piece without a joint. The stuff, whilst in a liquid state, having been poured into the moulds that have been prepared for it, and as the building mounted upwards, the roof crowned it with glory and turned it into a becoming monument, recording a step in the progress of the building art."

The front door had an entablature resting on richly-carved pilasters and caps. As we stood admiring it, the six-panelled and heavily-moulded door, decorated with swags and other emblems of the plasterer's art, opened, and a tall and graceful modern-looking lady, having shingled hair and a chubby face rather like the children's, short skirt fluted like an Ionic column, stepped out, showing a row of beautifully white teeth when she smiled. Frinton presented the party to her, after which she gave us a cordial greeting and an earnest invitation to step inside and see what other surprising things were in store for us. Before we accepted her invitation, however, Frinton drew our attention to the door.

"Concretine!" he exclaimed. "All Concretine!"

I had to stifle a note of surprise, for the door seemed executed in some excellent and rare wood, highly polished.

"Beautiful piece of work," was the general comment.

Many of us took out our penknives to test whether he spoke the truth. But we found the stuff as hard as steel.

"Gentlemen," said Frinton jocosely, "better keep your penknives out. You may require them. I warned you that you would see some surprising, if not amazing, things. But come in."

We stood in the hall, which was a lofty apartment, of which a staircase and several arched openings added a distinct charm. The floor was tiled, the ceiling richly Adamised, the walls panelled ready for the reception of pictures. A mantelpiece with overmantel of fine imitation variegated marble occupied one side of it. It was a magnificent conception. The children's playthings—a large brown Teddy Bear and a black Gollywog—were reclining on the mantelshelf and ogled the company with pathetic eyes. This was the one tender thing required to furnish the human atmosphere and stamp a formal and cold-looking Concretine with the seal of warm and sincere maternal affection. I am sure Frinton thought so, for when he told us they were made of Concretine, borne from the pangs of love, a tear glistened in his throat. It was so overpowering that nobody had the barbarity to use their penknives, though we had, following Frinton's advice, kept them open.

"Gentlemen," exclaimed Frinton conscientiously, "Not a brick has been used in this house. What you see is

Concretine. Though I have not yet taken up my abode, I have one room furnished, to which I will conduct you last, as it is the dining room."

A satisfied smile appeared upon the faces of the Press.

Frinton led the way into the drawing room. It was imposing. A deeply arched and coffered ceiling grew over the whole rather like the arch of Titus, Rome. There was a frieze of course, with festoons and flowers. The walls were divided by pilasters with fluted shafts that reminded me of Mrs. Frinton's skirt, which might have been in Concretine, who knows? There was also the usual dado and grand fireplace.

"There is no joinery work here," said Frinton. "Joiners there have been, of course, as a means to an end to fix the centres and forms, and that is all."

"What about the window frames?" naturally asked someone incredulously.

"Concretine," answered Frinton simply. "The architectures, too, and in fact all moulds."

A crowd went over to the window and began testing the structure in the usual way, but no impression could be made. The frame was as hard as steel.

"Gentlemen," said Frinton, "I am experimenting at present with furniture. Some has been made so far, and if it proves good, I will continue. I even hope to make a grand piano case."

A note of sensation from the Press.

We next followed Frinton upstairs to see the further surprises. He took us into each room. In every recess a beautiful wardrobe was built *in situ*, so he said, all in Concretine, even to the floors. The bathroom was most hygienic, having tiles of many marvellous patterns all over. The bath and lavatory basin were also made of this material upon a generous scale.

"We have the whole house fitted up with hot pipes and radiators in the most up-to-date style," said Frinton. "It is on the intensive principle and is so far a secret. But come down with me and I will show you the boilers and how simply I can light the furnace and make the house comfortably warm in a jiffy."

We accordingly descended into the cellar and inspected the apparatus, which looked as if some serpents had taken up their abode, so full of pipes it seemed. Frinton soon put a light to the furnace. "I will put it full on," he observed, "as it is rather a cold day."

After lighting the apparatus, which relied upon a particular gas provided by large cylinders, we followed Frinton upstairs again. A delicious perfume of a succulent dinner now greeted our nostrils. We were all quite ready for the meal and a sigh of satisfaction escaped from the mouths of the guests as we entered the dining room door. Here was a fully laid out table with cutlery, glasses, serviettes, flowers and a snow-white table cloth. Mrs. Frinton received us, and when we were seated she pressed a bell, and from somewhere waiters entered with the soup which we soon absorbed. After superintending the remainder of the courses, which consisted of the usual fish, meat and entrées, she disappeared. I am not exaggerating when I say that I thoroughly enjoyed the repast.

After cigars were handed round, Frinton stood upon his feet.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I am very glad to see you. (Hear, hear.) This house has been built like Solomon's temple without the sound of a hammer. I could reproduce every detail in another house, very cheaply indeed, and when people realise this I expect that 'Concretine' will be the popular building material. I anticipate a heavy demand. I trust, gentlemen, you are satisfied. Pass the wine." (Cheers.)

Several of the guests were now perspiring freely, not from the exercise due to making notes, but to the heat from the radiators which began to be rather overpowering.

"I said that there were surprises in store for you," continued Frinton, bathing his forehead. "Well, gentlemen, this tablecloth is made of 'Concretine.' (Sensation.) My wife, who still clings to the archaic, would insist in having the correct seams down the middle and across, so I have

had to make it so. You have no idea how easily this cloth is washed. A hard brush and a little soap is all that is necessary. The table is also in 'Concretine.' Do not be surprised."

Another sensation.

We all now began to experience the warmth of the room. It was like a Turkish bath, and several of the guests looked about for air. It was at that moment that I saw the flowers decking the table begin to melt away in parts, and presently the table tilted like a drunken man. The look of amazement upon Frinton's face was ludicrous. I knew at once that "Concretine" could not stand much heat without melting.

"Gentlemen!" he gasped, "there is too much heat. I will go down and turn it off."

He accordingly rushed from the table and laboured towards the door. I thought that a fainting attack had overcome him, but on looking downwards I could see pieces of "Concretine" adhering to his boots with every step he made.

"Air, for God's sake, air!" now cried a number of gentlemen.

Some of them made a dash for the window just as Frinton reached the door. But neither would open. Frinton, frenzied with anxiety, tugged at the door handle so hard that the whole lock and handle came away in his hand, exposing a large gap through which we could see Mrs. Frinton struggling across the hall to attain the front door.

"Turn off the heating apparatus!" he cried to her.

Mrs. Frinton looked round in a scared kind of way.

"Can't," she cried. "The cellar staircase has melted away, and soon the whole house will be following its example. Better get out as quickly as possible, dear."

It was then that the guests realised what it would mean if they did not exit quickly. In a moment or two they would sink through the floor, thus taking a short cut to the cellar. Fortunately none of them were as heavily built as Frinton, but their feet were beginning to make impressions in the floor. There now followed a struggle like a desperate crowd being slowly engulfed in a quicksand. A guest violently attacked the window with a chair and smashed all the glass, and then managed to squeeze through between the bars assisted by the others. Though the bars bent they did not break. Just then there was a noise in the room as if snow had fallen from a roof. On looking from whence it came, I was horrified to see part of the ornaments detach themselves from the ceiling and fall with a flop on to the floor. A desperate struggle now ensued; and as every one wanted to save himself at the expense of every one else, no one could possibly get out of the window, until two men, who were particularly resourceful, seized hold of the table and making a battering ram of it, depriving the window of its sashes and bars. Soon every man was outside, the last being Frinton, who had to be helped. They were just in time, for the remainder of the ceiling came down.

"Keep back, keep back!" cried Frinton.

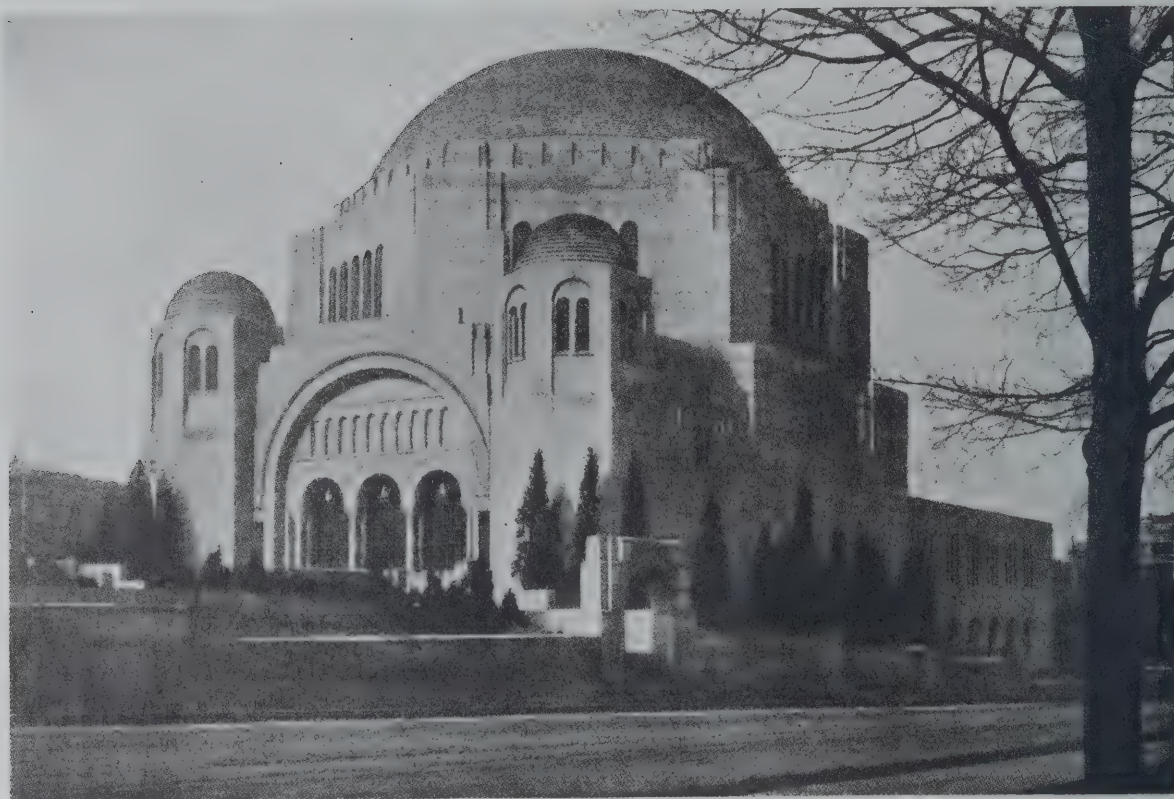
The warning was absolutely necessary, for soon the fabric began to melt away in a viscid mass like treacle. The heavy cornice came down, next the room and floors, until there remained simply a skeleton of rods and wires like a huge bird cage. Oh, it was a sad sight, and so sudden too!

Mrs. Frinton came struggling towards her husband, and as she fell into his arms surrounded by the children, I could see that part of her skirt had melted away. So it had been made of "Concretine" after all. When the children realised that they had left their toys upon the mantelpiece in the hall, their grief was manifest, and only the united efforts of Mrs. Frinton and the children clinging to his legs could prevent Frinton from running into the doomed building and rescuing the toys that were regarded as more than human.

Many of the newspapers made a huge joke of the affair, one in particular heading its article "Melting homes, and the peril of the house shortage." However, the architectural press did not do so. One of them tendered sound advice, and encouraged Frinton, saying that it was only from failure that success was lastingly possible.

The Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society. Presidential Address.

By W. Alban Jones. 2nd December 1925.



TEMPLE TIFERETH ISRAEL, CLEVELAND. 'CHARLES R. GRECO, Architect.
From the "Architectural Forum."

GENTLEMEN,—Many thanks for the election to a second year of office as president of this Society. During the past year civic matters of importance have called for our earnest deliberation. I desire to thank the Council, including several past-presidents, for devoting so much time to the various meetings. I consider both thanks and congratulations are due to our excellent hon. secretary, Mr. Charlton, the hon. treasurer, Mr. Whitehead, and Mr. Butler Wilson, our hon. editor and the originator of our Green Book, which is now a source of revenue to the Society. It is in the nature of things that each year we should have on these occasions to sound the passing bell for some architects known to us. Mr. Stephen Ernest Smith [F.] has passed at the age of 80, and Mr. William Bakewell (R.F.) at the age of 86.

STREET IMPROVEMENT AND UNIVERSITY.

Leeds stands at the moment fraught with great architectural possibilities. The new street and the University scheme afford unique opportunities for a new era in the visible character of our city. Certain preliminaries in both cases had been dealt with in so noiseless a fashion that local architects and the public were quite unaware until important commitments had been made. In the case of the new street, over half a mile in length from Victoria Square to Vicar Lane, Sir Reginald Bloomfield had been appointed as the designer. For the University buildings, for which an appeal is being made for £500,000, a competition has been apparently decided upon limited to eight selected architects, of whom only one, so far as I have heard, is a Yorkshireman. Evidently in the regard of the powers that be, Yorkshiremen in architecture are not to be compared with Yorkshiremen in cricket.

INTELLIGENT PATRONAGE.

Our plea is for intelligent patronage in Leeds for the art of architecture. The patron who makes it a rule to only buy Royal Academicians and artists of established reputation often piles up disappointment for his executors afterwards at Christie's. It is the patron who has sufficient personal appreciation of art to have the courage of his convictions that is wanted. Pericles was as necessary as Pheidias to the making of Athens. It is surprising how few public men of culture one comes across with a keen appreciation of architecture as a living art. In Leeds I believe we have one in Mr. Charlton, M.P. for West Leeds, who, despite his former occupation as an engine driver, found time to indulge in a study of architecture, and is now

considered the best guide to visitors wishing to inspect the architecture of the House of Commons. Without wishing in any way to detract from the interest aroused by the glories of our cathedrals and the architecture of past ages, which in Leeds has such an able exponent and lecturer in Professor Hamilton Thompson, may I say how much it is to be desired that we should have a similar man who would by eloquence arouse our citizens to a lively interest in the architecture of to-day, to the shame of the hideous in many a pretentious place of worship, and to an appreciation of some simple modern works of beauty. It is heartening to some architects to find a tribute such as that recently paid by Sir Michael Sadler to the Hostel of the Resurrection in Leeds, by the late Temple Moore. May I assume a similar rôle by drawing attention to a shop front for a piano dealer in Albion Street, but in such excellent taste that, if I was a local patron of architecture, I should make a point of finding out the young man who had so carefully designed this small work. The designer, Mr. Cyril Sunderland, is a former local student, an assistant, not yet in practice, but I feel sure his principal will not mind this slight tribute of mine. To any student or young architect apt at designing and who may be driven by force of circumstances to accept employ in the office of an estate agent or other business man, I would urge that wherever possible the stipulation should be made that the designer's name should appear on the drawing of any building that has architectural character. This elementary right should be granted to the despised artist by any successful business man worth his salt.

SCHOOL COURSE BEFORE PUPIL AGE.

There seems little doubt that our profession will be closed by statute to the unqualified practitioner. Registration looms sufficiently near as to render it a duty to point out to parents of prospective pupils that this Society now recommends that pupils should undertake two years' whole time course at the Leeds School of Architecture before entering an architect's office. This affords the best facilities for preparing for the examinations of the Royal Institute, it also serves as a filter barrier, inasmuch as the head of the department is enabled to advise parents as to the aptitude of their son in regard to an already overcrowded profession. As regards the backbone of many an architect's office—the tried and valued assistant who is willing to jog along in conscientious mundane duties, and whose dreams are not disturbed by competition awards—it is

a question whether a special curriculum of study should not be devised for continuing this species.

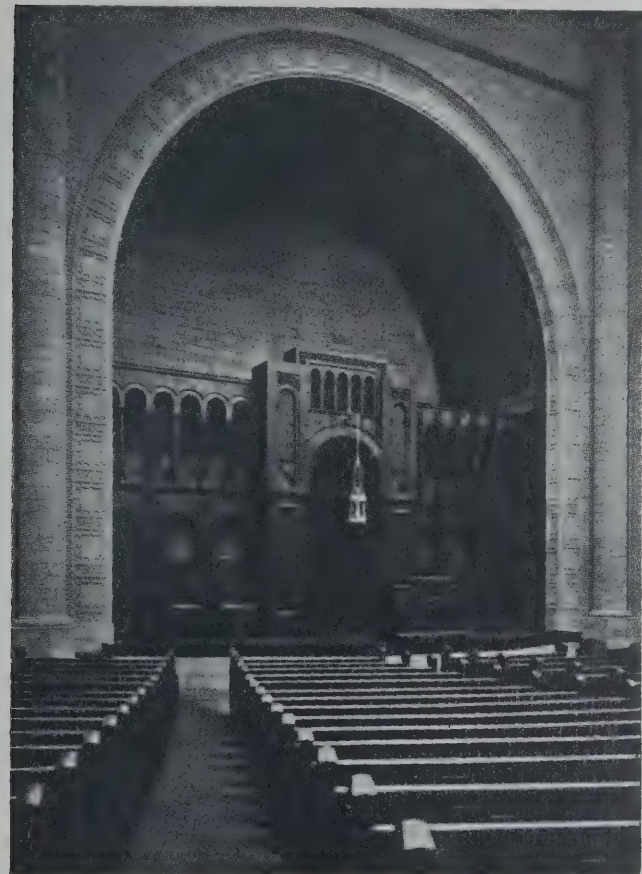
MIDLAND RAILWAY STATION.

The civic gateway to the City by means of the L.M. & S. Railway, so reminiscent of a third-rate cattle market, still continues the chief blot on City Square. Archaeological interest is gradually growing round the old gate piers, which are acquiring veneration due to things of past ages. The subject, I know, is a hardy annual, and only last May a deputation from the Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce waited upon the railway authorities to urge the necessity of new station premises. This scheme I note in yesterday's *Yorkshire Post* is again shelved indefinitely. About the time of this deputation last May I suggested in a press interview that if a big scheme of rebuilding

£38,000 as the site value for this 380 yards. When you realise that this valuable land could be built over and still leave exactly the same access for passengers and vehicles to the station, I ask could any business concern other than a railway company afford to leave it undeveloped and in its present derelict state. Even with only one storey over the archways as shown in the sketch, 380 square yards floor area at 30s. per yard gives a rental of £570 per annum, and if, as I hear, £400 per annum is paid for a single electric sign near by, then I think I would under-stress, even countenance, one or two of these signs if properly designed and placed in orderly fashion on the façade. The rooms could either be an annexe approached from the first floor of the Queen's Hotel, or entirely separate, with entrance and stairs, etc. at the opposite corner where stands the small one-storey office.

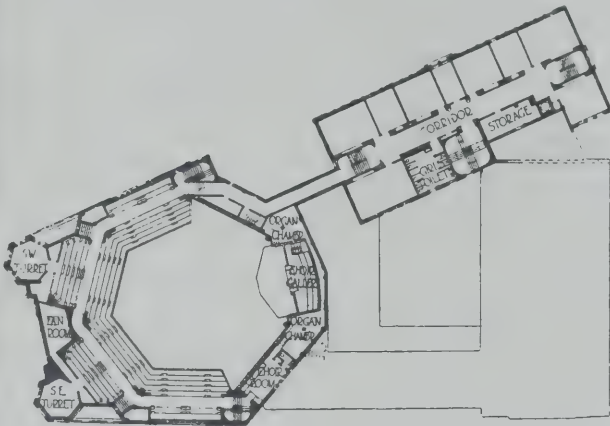
I do not care how inexpensive or temporary the erection may be so long as it pertains to some character of seemliness as is warranted in this civic gateway. I put forward the idea in this crude and hasty sketch with the hope that it may afford a tangible basis for practical discussion.

Sir Gervase Beckett lately made scathing reference to the maleficent influence of certain modern newspapers in warping

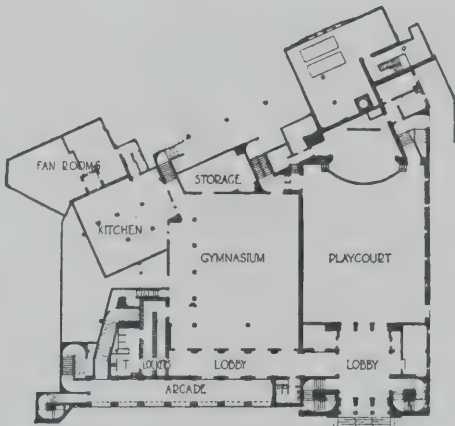


DETAIL ARK AND CHOIR GALLERY, TEMPLE TIFERETH ISRAEL, CLEVELAND.

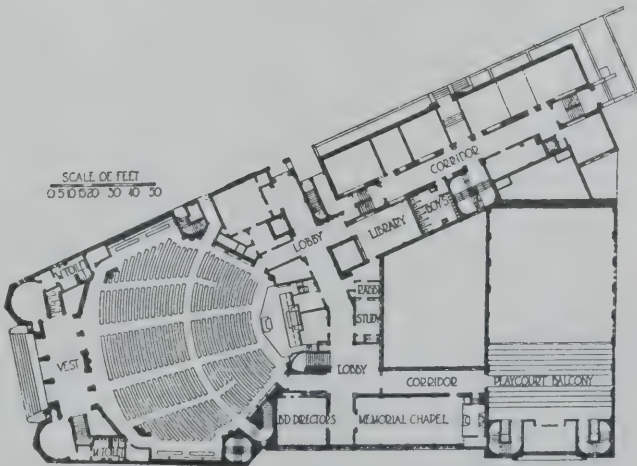
was not an immediate possibility on account of cost, then the eyesore of the approach from City Square might be got rid of by a temporary expedient in the form of a screen façade just high enough to hide the shed roofs. I further stated that an inexpensive scheme of this sort, if by means of pillars it supported a large room or suite of rooms over, could be made commercially profitable, even if the structure had to be demolished in a few years. I suggested this modest problem as a subject for our students' design competition, but it was thought too limited in scope, and the students' designs exhibited to-night, therefore, represent their efforts in the way of an ideal station entrance which reaches as high as the Queen's Hotel and in which with the usual privilege accorded to students' expense is not deemed of importance. When one realises that the students enter a room in the morning not knowing what subject is going to be set them and before they leave the room in the evening, they hand in the esquisse or preliminary designs, some of which are exhibited to-night, I think you will agree with me that all those who are working in the cause of education at the Leeds School of Architecture deserve our hearty congratulations. The students' designs do not, however, assist to illustrate my more limited idea for a temporary station entrance, and consequently for to-night's purpose I have very hastily indeed prepared a small sketch which, in your charity, I ask you not to criticise, except as regards the practical or commercial side of the idea. The frontage now occupied by the old gateways and the small one-storey building at the corner is 38 yards long. An erection 10 yards deep could be provided without unduly affecting light and air, giving an area of 380 square yards. Now land in the centre of Leeds has sold at much more than £120 per square yard, but even £100 per yard gives over



BALCONY AND SECOND FLOOR



BASEMENT



MAIN FLOOR

PLANS, TEMPLE TIFERETH ISRAEL, CLEVELAND.
CHARLES R. GRECO, Architect.

the judgment of intelligent people. The recent defacement advertising a cheap newspaper by electric signs on the clock turret of the old Royal Exchange in City Square is a blatant offence to a respected Leeds building. About the same time as this obtrusive eyesore made its appearance the same newspaper made a handsome donation to the University funds. The Church could not reconcile itself to gifts of plate from Mr. Hooley, and I suggest to Dr. Baillie that it would be a fine gesture on behalf of culture to return this newspaper's gift until such time as this sin against all cultural decency in our chief public square has been blotted out. If some such reality is not to be imported into more protests against this sort of thing then I suggest that a much larger number of bricks could be earned for the University by allowing jazz signs to flit up the forms of the statued nymphs in the Square and dart with telling effect to advertisements in the lamp overhead, culminating in a really magnificent offer for the privilege of the Black Prince proclaiming in electric light the widest circulation of all newspapers as proof positive that culture was spreading. Personally, I have no quarrel with the temporary vogue of jazz signs as jolly vulgarities in certain quarters of a city, and I think in an artistic sense they typify the restless spirit of the age so apparent in a bustling crowd on enjoyment bent at night. It is quite another matter when we find, as we do, respectable old insurance offices defiling their fine buildings, as at the corner of Commercial Street. I do not know what advertising demon it is who marks down each new victim, but depend upon it it will not be his fault if other insurance offices do not proceed to play the silly game of cancelling one another out by blazing away their surplus money in similar fashion to showmen at a fair. I am glad to note that in a similar matter most petrol firms have agreed to no longer compete in this game of cancelling one another out by advertisement boards, and our countryside and the firms' pockets are so much the better for it. If a very small part of the money blazed away in electric signs was spent on colour-washing the concrete and brick houses in the new housing schemes it would have much more effect towards a brighter Leeds.

Sir Reginald Blomfield has been lamenting a growing tendency since the war of the younger architects to indulge in caustic public criticisms of the work of their colleagues; he would stifle it in true public-school fashion by exercising the terrible ban of deeming it "unsportsmanlike." Unfortunately, the rules of art are not so well defined as those of cricket, or professionalism. . . . Now, gentlemen, we cannot have it both ways; if architecture is an art then we have to realise that living art has ever been the subject of fierce controversy. Even to-day Sir Frank Dicksee indulges in vigorous criticisms of Epstein's sculpture, and Epstein, in replying, describes the President of the Royal Academy as beneath notice so long as men like Scott and Burnett admire the Hudson Memorial, and Epstein points out that Michael Angelo's statue of David was stoned by an angry populace when first put in its position in the public square and a guard had to be put round it at night similar to the nocturnal watch of the Hyde Park policemen for the Hudson Memorial. Epstein suggests as a remedy for mediocrity that all Royal Academicians over the age of 55 should resign from active power in management, but personally I see this age looming so near me in the future that I favour its extension for general purposes to 60 years. I sincerely trust when 60 years is upon me I shall still have enough virility to favour 70 years as a reasonable limit. At 70 years, however, I am determined that, granted a reasonable competence, I shall settle down to the idea that the ethics of golf are all important and give the younger men and the devil their head in squabbling and earning their living in art. Especially shall I be fixed in this determination if in the meantime youth has had a similar trouncing to that of the last ten years. It would, of course, be presumption for me to think that dreams of virility at 70 cannot be excelled. I would suggest to Sir Reginald that, leaving art matters quite out of the question, there is an aspect of youthful criticism since the war that *can* be assessed in terms of cricket, and that aspect has been best put by Sir James Barrie, but lest I should be thought to be in collusion with Barrie's publishers I refrain from again naming the book. This appearance of antagonism between age and youth is in the nature of things more than a thing of yesterday, and long may the rigour of the game continue so long as both parties honourably "dip the flag" in passing. In this respect I consider that this Society is indebted to one of our senior past-presidents, Colonel Kirk, for seconding an important resolution so ably proposed by Mr. Proctor. Safety first was advocated by some, but if one believes in a thing it is better to risk the consequences, for idealism has a knack of justifying itself in many unexpected ways.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the President for his address, proposed by Colonel Kirk (A.), O.B.E., and seconded by Mr. J. C. Proctor (A.), M.C.

A Last Word on Epstein.

By Loren H. B. Knox.

Can any new thing be said as to Epstein's Hudson Memorial in Hyde Park? Yes, I think there can. And I believe it should be said. For it goes to the foundation of the claims of present art, that is, of architecture, sculpture, painting, poetry and music.

Mr. Muirhead Bone has secured a long list of eminent names, among painters, writers, politicians and others, protesting against the removal of this panel, which the great majority of folk regard as an eyesore, dishonouring Hudson and blemishing the city.

Among them is much "art authority," to whose judgment the laity are supposed to bow. Why have these distinguished leaders pleaded for its preservation?

Doubtless, if their reasons were probed, their endorsement could be traced to a friendly compliance with a request to do so; to persuasion by "art authority" that it is a "strong," "vital," or "original" work; to a sense of "fair play"; to a desire to be "advanced," among the "heralds of the dawn" of "modern art." Among these there are those whose opinion is that the carving is poor, those whose opinion is that it is good, and those who have no opinion because they don't think.

But, so far as I have discovered, there are none who pass upon it with a conviction as to the truth of art. For conviction implies a standard, and if anything is clear it is that "modern Art" has no standard. In other words, endorsers and opponents of this erection seem to me utterly blind as to its true nature. But the most astray are the artists and "art authorities," and I think this is because their training has been wrong in teaching them that the artist can produce art, whereas the fact is that he cannot.

To my mind the whole issue is simple. The artist does not produce art. True fine art is only that compelled by the soul of its age, that is, the soul of the time focalised by the soul of the creator. By "soul" I mean the emotional, idealising, intuitive, epitomising, symbolising faculty which demands the ideal.

The worship of Greek gladness, in which the subjective and the objective are balanced, as Winckelmann shows, went into the Parthenon and its Phidian statuary, as did that of Christian sadness, in which the subjective overbalanced the objective, into Amiens Cathedral and Michael Angelo's "Day and Night." The essence of little Holland's continuous wars against the Spaniards and the Sea was in every Dutch canvas. Mediæval romance, verging towards the Renaissance, was epitomised in Shakespeare's plays. Union in Vienna at his period of the classic and the romantic, German harmony and Italian melody, made Beethoven the supreme musician.

The present day has no soul for any fine art, either architecture, sculpture, painting, poetry or music. It does not speak their language because its vernacular is science, analytical, externalising, despiritualising, over-intellectualising science—that is, mind.

But "art authority" ignores this, and says we are a continuation of the genuine tradition, or that we are spiritually potent to make a new tradition. We are neither. Everything our so-called "artists" do to-day is individual, with no compulsion from us. The basic falsity, to my mind, of artists and "art authority" is that, not knowing this, they think the strain, even agony, of single creators is "strong," "original," "vital," "sincere," "courageous," whereas it is none of these, simply æsthetic impotency; death, not a rebirth, of Beauty. They do not advance art or culture by encouraging these distortions, or even the sanest but uninspired effort to follow tradition—save in architecture, the most practical of the fine arts. No wonder Art to-day gibbers with lunacy!

Epstein's products are better judged by the common man than by the "connoisseur." The former has a sense that sculpture should be comprehensible, ideal and beautiful, which it should. The latter, in this day when the folk do not compel Beauty, wishes to conserve "Art" to his class, as Tolstoi showed in his "What is Art?" so tries to prove

his superior cultivation by calling the ugly distortion "the freedom of the artist in expressing his own ideas," which therefore, must be the "truth," to be fostered and understood only by beings of his advanced discernment. In this manner he and his followers blind themselves to sense, and, if they have souls warp them to falsity. Their limit of appreciation is reached in "seeing what the artist is trying to do," not knowing that that effort proves not only the unfructified single creator's inability to attain his aim, but his and their incapacity to know the truth of Art.

This harrowed day is reflected in the Epstein agony, but it does not compel the graver. And that, to my thought, is the distinction between the counterfeit and the true. This panel, not having a trace of soul-compulsion in it, is not true Art, but Epstein's futile struggle to do art. Of course, it is coarse, ugly and repulsive, as all such epochally uninspired strain must be. Not being true art, it seems to me it ought not to be preserved for posterity, as a token not alone of our spiritual impotency, but of our bad taste and incapacity to know what true art is.

Scholarships in Architecture at Schools of Architecture Recognised by the R.I.B.A. for Exemption from its Examinations (under certain conditions).

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

1. *Public School Entrance Scholarships.*—Application must be made on the special forms which may be obtained from the Secretary of the Architectural Association.

This scholarship is open to candidates who—

- (1) At the time of application are pupils in any public school recognised by the Head Masters' Conference.
- (2) Are under the age of 19 on July 1 of the year in which they compete.

A limited number of candidates selected on their application may be required to attend before the School Committee, and if necessary to sit for an examination at a date whereof due notice will be given them.

The elected scholar shall forthwith take up his membership of the association.

2. *Open Entrance Scholarship.*—Application must be made on the special forms which may be obtained from the Secretary, The Architectural Association.

The Scholarship is open to candidates who are under the age of 19 on July 1 of the year in which they compete. They must not be eligible or have been at any time eligible to compete for the Public School Scholarship.

Application for the Scholarship must be accompanied by a full statement of general education and details of any architectural training which the candidate may have received, either in an architect's office or in any technical or art school. The Council may require to be furnished with particulars of the candidate's financial position.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

1. *Christopher Bushell Scholarship, £40 for three years.*—The Scholarship is open to youths who are not more than 19 years of age on October 1 next following the date of the examination. The holder of the scholarship is required to proceed to a degree.

2. *The Agnes Sinclair Scholarship (£50 (about) for three years.*—The holder must proceed to a degree in Arts or in the Honours School of Mathematics.

3. *The University Studentship in Architecture.*—A University Studentship in Architecture is offered in the School of Architecture upon the result of a special examination, particulars of which may be obtained on application to the Registrar.

Candidates holding Higher School certificates are eligible for these scholarships.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, Liverpool University.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, BARTLETT SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

1. *Entrance Exhibitions.*—Two entrance exhibitions in the Bartlett School of Architecture to the value of £40 a year may be awarded annually in June.

Candidates for the first exhibition must have passed the Matriculation Examination of the University or some other examination accepted in its stead. The successful candidate for the first exhibition will be required to take the full-time course leading to the University degree in Architecture. The exhibition will be tenable for a period of five years, subject to satisfactory progress.

Candidates for the second exhibition must be graduates of a British University or some other University approved by the Selecting Committee.

2. *The Andrews Scholarship (three Entrance Scholarships of £40 each)* will be offered annually for competition.

3. *The Rosa Morison Entrance Scholarship of £40 a year*—tenable under conditions for three years—is offered annually.

Further particulars, etc., may be obtained from the Secretary, University College, London.

LEEDS SCHOOL OF ART, DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE.

1. *Twenty Intermediate Art Scholarships (awarded annually in the School of Art).*—These scholarships provide free tuition and cover the cost of materials, together with a maintenance grant of £15 for the first year and £20 for the second year.

2. *Twenty Senior Art Scholarships (awarded annually in the School of Art).*—These scholarships cover the cost of tuition, materials, etc., and provide a maintenance allowance not exceeding £50 per annum.

3. *West Riding County Council Scholarships.*

A. Junior Art Scholarship, covering the cost of tuition and an allowance towards the cost of travelling.

B. County Art Scholarship, and

C. County Craft Scholarship, covering tuition fees and allowance towards the cost of travelling. A maintenance grant is also made in special cases.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. J. Addison, A.R.I.B.A., Leeds School of Art.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

The R.I.B.A. Anderson and Webb Scholarship, £70.—(Permanent regulations for the administration of the scholarship are at present under consideration.)

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. Theodore Fyfe, F.R.I.B.A., The School of Architecture, Cambridge University.

CARDIFF TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

Ten Open Scholarships.—Ten Open Scholarships to the Technical College, covering tuition fees and a maintenance grant of £40 per annum for three years are offered for competition to residents and non-residents of Cardiff annually in September. Candidates for the Department of Architecture and Civic Design are eligible to compete for these Scholarships and take an examination of about matriculation standard in the following subjects:—

1. English.
2. Mathematics.
3. A modern language other than English.
4. Physics with Mechanics or Chemistry or Higher Mathematics.
5. History or Geography.
6. Freehand Drawing.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. W. S. Purchon, F.R.I.B.A., The Technical College, Cardiff.

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

1. *Free Studentships.*—Students of 15 years or over who are desirous of obtaining full-time training for the purpose of entering the profession of architecture may, subject to certain conditions, compete for free places in the school. The awards are made on the results of an examination held in May and June.

Maintenance allowances are also granted where necessary.

Forms of entry may be obtained from the Principals of Secondary and Grammar Schools, or from the Secretary, Central School of Arts and Crafts, Margaret Street, Birmingham.

2. *"Louisa Anne Ryland" Scholarships.*—Four Scholarships of the value of £30 and two of £40 endowed by the late Miss Louisa Anne Ryland and offered annually.

They are awarded on the work done in the school and on an examination held in June, open to all students of the school who have attended for at least one session; they are renewable for a second year if the holders attend regularly and make satisfactory progress.

The financial circumstances of the parents are taken into account in making the awards.

3. *"J. S. Wright" Scholarship.*—This Scholarship is of the value of £60, and is offered once in two years.

Only students who are actually holding or have held within two years a "Louisa Anne Ryland" £40 Scholarship may compete for this Scholarship.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. George Drysdale, F.R.I.B.A., School of Architecture, Birmingham.

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

The following open University Scholarships are tenable in the department of Architecture:—

- (1) *The Firth Scholarship, £30 a year*, tenable for three years.



Photo: Hodgkinson

BUNGALOW ERECTED IN JUST OVER ONE WEEK BY THE USE OF THE "UTILITY" METHOD WALL CONSTRUCTION. MESSRS. BRADLEY & ARTHUR, Contractors, Ewell.

(2) *The Corporation Scholarship*, £30 a year, tenable for three years.

(3) *The Sheffield Town Trustees' Scholarships*, four of the value of £50 a year.

(4) *The Edgar Allen Scholarships*, four of the value of £125 a year, tenable for three years.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. H. St. John Harrison, A.R.I.B.A., Sheffield University.

BRISTOL, THE ROYAL WEST OF ENGLAND ACADEMY, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

Two Open Scholarships, each of the value of half the school fees—i.e., £12 12s.—are offered annually.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. G. D. Gordon Hake, F.R.I.B.A., The School of Architecture, R.W.A., Bristol.

NORTHERN POLYTECHNIC, HOLLOWAY, DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE, SURVEYING AND BUILDING.

1. The London County Council Intermediate Scholarships are tenable in the Department of Architecture.

2. The Middlesex County Council have scholarships tenable in the Department.

3. The Governors of the Northern Polytechnic, in exceptional cases, give free places to students.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. T. P. Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., The Northern Polytechnic.

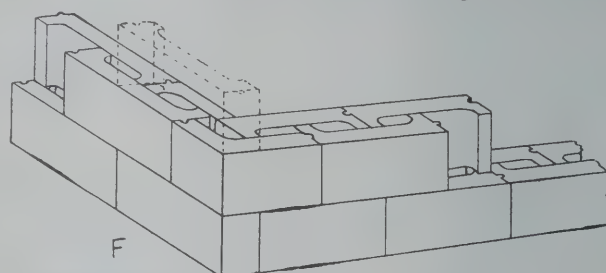
Building Trade and Housing Exhibition, Edinburgh.

Mr. T. P. Bentley, the promoter of the first Building Trades and Housing Exhibition, held in Leicester last year, is holding a Housing and Building Exhibition in the Waverley Market Hall, Edinburgh, from February 10 to 20. It is being held under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council of the city of Edinburgh. Mr. Bentley informs us that the available space is being rapidly taken up, and that any firms who desire to bring their manufactures before the leading Scotch architects and builders, and the housing authorities, should make immediate application for any of the space not yet allotted.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—The Corporation have decided to erect a further 20 houses.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Swannington Street, for Mr. E. F. Simkins.

Wall Construction—"Utility" Method.

Messrs. J. Wright & Co., Ltd., of New Malden, have invented and patented among other things their "Utility" method, which has proved to be one of the cheapest and most reliable forms of concrete construction, being simple, speedily erected, low in cost, economical of labour and materials. Walls can be built of any brick thickness, 9 in., 13½ in., 18 in., etc. As there is an air cavity, condensation is eliminated, and the interlocking band is rigid, while there is no cutting or waste. The



GENERAL METHOD OF WALLING, SHOWING QUOIN AND HALF BONDING BLOCKS.

system is approved by the L.C.C. and Ministry of Health. The blocks which are shown in our illustration are $\square$ shaped with a groove at one end and a raised projection at the other which fits into the groove in the next block. The outer blocks are composed of crushed ballast, sand and British standard Portland cement and are impervious to weather. The inner blocks are of coke breeze concrete. The enterprise has been established just over half a century, and the works are organised to deal promptly with any demand made on them, and while they are organised to deal with any demand, quality has never been sacrificed to quantity, and every attempt is made to deal with delivery promises.

Change of Address

Messrs. C. Isler & Co., Ltd., the well-known artesian and consulting well engineers, of Artesian Works, Bear Lane, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1, desire us to announce the change of their Birmingham branch address from Summer Row to 93 and 94, Broad Street.

Eighteenth-Century Architecture in Vevey.

The little town of Vevey, so charmingly situated on the shores of the Lake of Geneva, possesses two good specimens of eighteenth century architecture.

One of them, the Hôtel de Ville, is specially interesting to Britishers, for on its façade is to be seen a modest tablet of white marble, expressing the gratitude of the officers and men interned in the town and in the district round, for all the kindness shown them by the Swiss, during the time they were there as prisoners of war. The unveiling of that tablet in 1918 is still fresh in the memories of the warm-hearted Veveysans, and none of our comrades in arms who took part in that simple ceremony, are likely to forget it.



VEVEY HOTEL DE VILLE.

This Hôtel de Ville is one of the rare Swiss monuments representing the classical architecture in the country in the eighteenth century. No superfluous ornamentation mars the perfect symmetry of its façade, and no false note spoils the harmony, the taste and proportion of the building. The window-frames and door-lintels are of white stone, which is equally used in the decoration of the courses and uprights. A graduated flight of steps leads up to the door, itself soberly carved, with wrought-iron ornaments on lock and over the two oval lights in the top panels. Above an extremely beautiful forged-iron balcony gives an air of sober elegance to the simple building, while under the roof a stencilled frontal surrounding a clock-face of the period, adds a finish to the whole.

The interior was arranged in its present form in 1751-1755, when the different houses, that had been thrown into one, were finally lifted to the same height, and brought under a common roof, and when the various landings were as nearly as possible levelled. The banisters of the great staircase are especially fine, and a beautiful specimen of the wrought-iron work of the time.

The second example of classical architecture in Vevey is the building known as the "Cour au Chantre," which takes its name from a former owner, Girard d'Oron, precentor or lay-clerk at Lausanne Cathedral in the Middle Ages. His nephew succeeded him, but never used the then existing house as a "Cours," i.e., court of Justice, and finally sold the property. It eventually came into the hands of the de Joffrey, who built the present construction in 1746, and next year the town ceded its rights as overlord of the fief, to de Joffrey. Since last year this imposing building has been used to house various municipal offices. Tradition has it that a subterranean passage existed from the "Cour au Chantre" to the old church of St. Martin up on the boulevard behind the town, but no trace of this passage has ever been found, and as Girard was never a "chantre" of St. Martin, the whole thing is probably a legend.

The house itself is separated from the road by fine wrought-iron railings and gates forming a harmonious curve between the four stone, ball-topped pillars, culminating in a curved stone wall. Built on three sides of a cour



VEVEY COUR AU CHANTRE.

d'honneur, itself wide and spacious, it is approached by a double perron with very fine forged-iron balustrades, and decorated hexagonal mouldings, in the right one of which, unfortunately, some vandal of later days has cut a small window to give light to the vault formed under the perron, of which the door is another disfigurement. As in the Hôtel de Ville, an iron balcony breaks the monotony of the severely simple façade, but the frontal is practically plain.

The side-buildings of the "Cour du Chantre" though called wings, are certainly not a *match* with the main-building, and it is more than likely that they were adapted only, when the house was rebuilt, and were part of older buildings considered too good to pull down.

E. EALES.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

DECEMBER 11, 1875.

THE RESTORATION OF ST. ALBANS ABBEY.

Sir Gilbert Scott, in a report just made public, has confirmed the opinion that has been formed on the alarming state of the South Arcade wall of the nave of St. Albans Abbey. In fact it appears that the whole of the wall and the aisle and roof, and it is very much feared the nave roof too, are in such a state that they might fall any day, and the finest part of the Abbey become a ruin past recovery. Sir Gilbert Scott's opinion has been obtained at the instance of Sir Edmund Beckett. The Restoration Committee are progressing with the repairs in the middle part of the church as fast as funds will allow, but urgent as the necessity is for dealing with the nave they are powerless to do anything of any real use until there is a prospect of raising the requisite sum of 30,000*l.* Sir Edmund Beckett cannot believe that the diocese will allow its new cathedral, which is in one sense the oldest in the kingdom, and is the longest church in the world except St. Peter's at Rome, to remain shored up and in danger of falling into ruin, and he comes forward with the handsome offer to subscribe 1,000*l.*, on condition that the whole of the 30,000*l.* is promised within a year, or at any rate as much as will enable a satisfactory contract for the works to be safely made. It is stated on good authority that Sir Edmund's lead has been already followed by several promises of similar amounts, but they have not been officially announced.

Manchester Town Hall Competition.

The assessors appointed to advise the Manchester Corporation in connection with the proposal to enlarge the Town Hall are Mr. Robert Atkinson and Mr. Ralph Knott, of London, and Mr. T. R. Milburn, of Sunderland. This combination should form a good jury, as all of the three architects appointed are men of considerable experience in large building schemes. We are glad to see that Mr. T. R. Milburn's name in this connection, as he has created a very good record by his fairness, clearness of vision, and common sense. In regard to the latter quality we remember an eminent man referring to it as the most uncommon quality of common sense, and we often feel that it is not so much exceptional and brilliant ability which is most wanted in the world, as what is well described as the uncommon quality of common sense.

Peterborough Cathedral.



INTERIOR VIEW OF CATHEDRAL: SOUTH TRANSEPT.

To-day all the beauties of this splendid example of Norman architecture can be examined at any time during the twenty-four hours. This fact has been made possible by the installation of a very clever and well thought out system of artificial lighting. By concealing the lighting units on either side of the clerestory windows, the light is in respect of direction and distribution similar to daylight. In one of our inset plates given in this issue the effect of the lighting installation is very truthfully illustrated. Messrs. The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., are responsible for the work and can be complimented on producing an effect which greatly adds to the spiritual atmosphere of the whole building. By means of the simplest of controls the cathedral can be flood-lighted in every part, or only certain desired portions can be illuminated. It is possible to keep the nave and transepts in sombre darkness or in a subdued light, and flood the altar with a radiance only equalled by a direct ray of sunlight. No decorative fittings have been used. No ornamental forms detract the eye from the architectural beauties of the building.

The new lighting system was formally inaugurated on October 4, 1925. Before that day the cathedral had been for many years lighted by means of gas. It would be difficult to conceive of a more complete transformation in the appearance of an interior than has been effected by the new system of illumination in Peterborough Cathedral. Whereas before the introduction of electric lighting the omni-present gloom had merely been emphasised by hundreds of flickering points of gas-light, the interior is now bathed in a mellow radiance proceeding from the invisible sources.

Early in 1924 the Dean and Chapter requested Mr. H. A. Nevill, the Peterborough city electrical engineer, to submit proposals for the illumination of the cathedral by means of electricity.

After collaboration with the Illuminating Department of the British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Mr. Nevill submitted a proposal to the Dean and Chapter in August. This scheme was carefully considered, and as it appeared likely to meet the requirements of the case it was arranged to install a small trial installation so that the actual effect could be judged. This trial installation was duly completed in December and was considered generally satisfactory, although a few minor alterations were made in the position of the lighting units to meet the views of the cathedral architect. Finally, the proposals for the lighting of the nave, choir, chancel and transepts were approved on the basis of the trial installation, and this scheme was eventually completed and inaugurated on Sunday, October 4, 1925. Each lighting unit consists of a specially designed projector comprising three silvered glass mirrors mounted in a suitable case, and

equipped with a 250 watt projector type Mazda gasfilled lamp. The lamp is supported in a porcelain holder mounted on an adjustable bracket, so as to permit of its being correctly focused in relation to two of the mirrors, the third mirror being itself adjustable.

The projector itself is mounted on an adjustable arm which in turn slides on a bracket attached to the wall of the building. This bracket is jointed, so that by releasing a screw the complete projector can be swung into a position whence it can be easily reached from the walk which runs round the clerestory, for cleaning, etc., without the use of ladders or scaffolding.

The beams from these projectors are trained diagonally downwards across the cathedral towards the bottom of the piers on the other side of the nave. The portion of the beams, which would otherwise be spilt on the edge of the clerestory, is deflected upwards to illuminate the upper part of the walls and roof.

Different arrangements were necessary at the "crossing" beneath the central lantern tower. Here, eight special units are mounted nearly 100 feet above the floor. Each of these units is provided with a single silvered glass reflector, and a device to prevent the light "splashing" on the walls in the upper part of the tower. These units are supported on tubular arms which are carried from a pivot attached to the wall of the building, and are provided with a counter-balance weight so that the units themselves, which project some considerable distance beyond the masonry, cannot only be swung round to an accessible position for cleaning, but can also be adjusted in all directions from this position.

The lighting at the eastern end of the apse, and certain other situations, is effected by Mirolux trough reflectors fixed in a suitable position in the triforium and clerestory.

All the lighting units are finished in light buff tint, matching the colour of the walls, so as to render them as inconspicuous as possible.

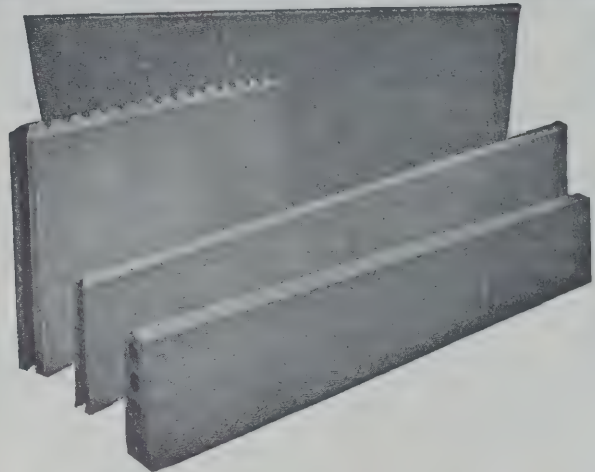
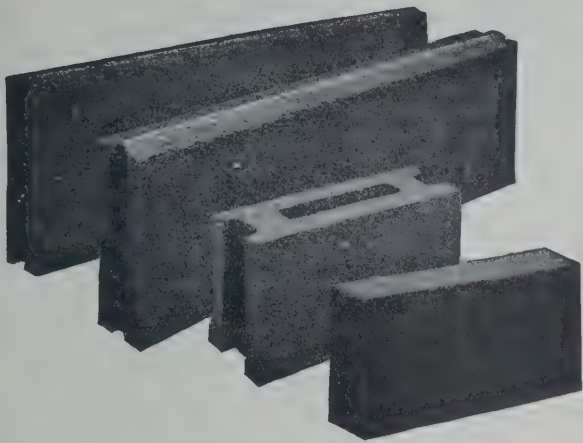
The electric supply enters the building at the ends of the north and south transepts where the main switches, meters, etc., are situated, and passes thence, by means of lead-covered cable, up the staircase at the end of the transepts, to the control panels which are situated at the extreme north and south ends of the east side of the transepts on the triforium level. From these points lead-covered cables run up the staircase to the clerestory level to their respective units.

The control cables from the push button boards are situated at the west end of the south side of the choir stalls, and run through the crypt to the staircase at the south end of the south transept, whence they pass up to the triforium—one directly to the control panel in the south transept, and the other round



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE CATHEDRAL: RETROCHOIR

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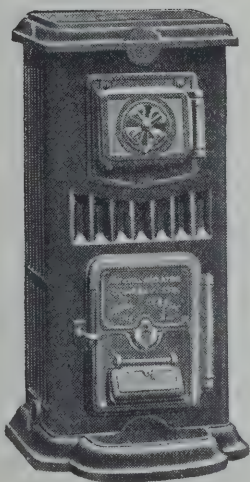
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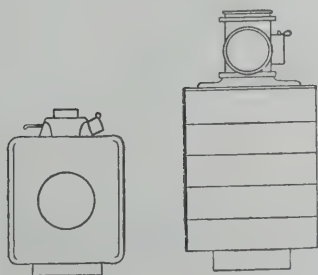
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the apse to the control panel in the north transept. Each of these cables contains no less than 37 conductors, and 16 pairs of push buttons are provided on each control board to bring on or take off the lights in a variety of groupings.

Each control panel is provided with fifteen contractors and each contractor circuit is furnished with a no-voltage and overload release. The panels are contained in well-ventilated sheet steel cases mounted on concrete. Special wall lanterns are employed for the illumination of the vestries, and the entrance in the west porch is lighted by means of units secreted in the paving. The light from these units is thrown upwards on to the vaulting, whence it is diffused over the entrance-way to the west doors. Special arrangements are employed to prevent the lamps from being seen in passing from the porch to the cathedral, or vice versa.

The same care which characterises the design and arrangement of the lighting units has been expended on the wiring, the cable runs being carefully and beautifully executed throughout the building. Most of the cables, of course, are in positions where they cannot be seen by the congregation.

The wiring is on the Henley Wiring System (Messrs. W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works, Co., Ltd.) and was carried out by Messrs. Amies & Sons, the local contractors, in a highly satisfactory manner. Many difficulties had to be overcome before the installation was an accomplished fact. The restrictions were very severe. No "fittings" were to be employed or anything that would interfere with the architectural features of the building. Restrictions were imposed regarding attachment or suspension of any apparatus. An interesting fact may be given in connection with the manner in which the restrictions relative to the attachment were overcome. Owing to the cathedral architect being very firm in respect to the stipulation that no damage whatsoever must be done to the masonry in the attachment of the wiring and cables, over 25,000 Rawlplugs were used in attaching the cables and wiring to the stonework; and all who have inspected the installation have expressed their complete satisfaction at the effectiveness of these plugs.

As previously stated, Mr. Nevill, the city electrical engineer, has acted as consultant to the cathedral authorities and is to be congratulated, not only on the installation generally, but also on the manner in which he has reconciled and harmonised the various engineering, constructional and architectural factors so that they form a homogeneous whole. The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., were responsible for the design of the installation, and the manufacture of the lighting units and Mazda lamps. The cost of the whole installation is under £2,000 and the yearly expenditure for current is estimated at £70, which sum includes the power used for the organ.

St. Andrew's Church, Stockwell, New Chapel.

The Bishop of Southwark dedicated on Sunday last the altar and reredos erected in the new chapel of the Blessed Sacrament in this church, which we illustrated by one of Mr. H. P. Burke Downing's characteristic pencil drawings in our issue of October 23 last. The centrepiece of the reredos, which is of oak some seventeen feet in height, is a finely sculptured panel containing a representation of the Crucifixion, with angels in the attitude of adoration at the foot of the Cross.

It is an exceptionally beautiful example of the work of the veteran sculptor, Mr. Nathaniel Hitch. The aumbry is built into the south wall of the chapel. The whole has been carried out from the designs and detailed drawings of the architect, Mr. H. P. Burke Downing, F.S.A., and is the climax of a work of general rearrangement and decoration of the church, by which a singularly dull and depressing interior has been inspired with life and beauty.

Messrs. J. H. Sankey & Son, Ltd., Essex Wharf, Canning Town, E.16, have issued some interesting data relative to their Sankey Down Draught Preventing Pot, upon which we hope to give fuller details shortly. Many will welcome a very comprehensive Temperature Card which the firm have compiled in tabulated form. The melting, disassociation, boiling and freezing points are given of many metals, etc.; Sankey's best Fire-clay bricks and Fireclays, Bauxite, Cromite magnesite and silica Firebricks, high temperature and "Pyruma" Fire cements are well known for their quality. Large stocks are held in London and are available to meet every call.

Building Progress In and Near London.

An exceptionally engaging façade is that to the block of office buildings now arising in Old Broad Street, at its junction with Throgmorton Street. The architects are Messrs. Heal and Gunton & Gunton, the general contractors being Trollope & Colls, Ltd. An interesting feature is the use of small-sized rustic red bricks, rising six courses to the foot. The long list of sub-contractors includes:—B. Goodman, Ltd., for demolition and excavation; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, artesian wells; Val de Travers Asphalte Co., Ltd., for asphalte; Redpath, Brown & Co., for constructional steelwork; W. Gilbert, for stone carving; Brookes, Ltd., faience; Express Lift Co., Ltd., for lifts; Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., for metal windows, skylights, etc.; the Luxfer Co., pavement lights and fire glazing; Mellows & Co., Ltd., and Shanks & Co., Ltd., sanitary fittings; Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., for telephones; Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd., for strong rooms; Rosser & Russell, Ltd., heating and ventilating; Francis Polden & Co., Ltd., electrical work; Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., fire hydrants; Martin van Straaten & Co., Ltd., tiling and mosaic; H. T. Jenkins & Son, Ltd., marble work; Bagués, Ltd., bronze grilles, etc.; Art Pavements and Decorations, Ltd., terrazzo stair finishings; Charles Smith, Sons & Co., Ltd., locks and door furniture; and H. H. Martyn & Co., Ltd., wrought ironwork. This Wrenesque specimen of modern architecture will strike a note in the thoroughfare which it has hitherto lacked.

Tokenhouse Yard, another hitherto dull and uninteresting turning in the old City, is also being livened up by the erection of new buildings—one of which, at any rate, is representative of the best modern architectural thought, though in this case it expresses classic design. We refer to the new pile for the London and South American Bank, designed by Messrs. Joseph, the general contractors being Bovis, Ltd. Here we have a stone façade in Greek Doric dress, an effective motif being obtained by the throwing back of the façade above ground storey level for the five upper storeys. The Cement Marketing Co. have supplied their brand of "Blue Circle" Portland cement, and Waygood-Otis lifts are being installed. Alongside this block a site is being cleared by B. Goodman, Ltd., and on the opposite side of the roadway further office buildings are arising, for which F. G. Minter, Ltd., are the contractors, and Matthew Shaw and Co., Ltd., are supplying the constructional steelwork.

The association of Strawberry Hill with Horace Walpole and Alexander Pope is overlooked by some and not known to others, but there is still a remnant of people who like to recall to mind the days when this riverside retreat was thus favoured. Walpole's connection is not made manifest, as is the poet's, by the nomenclature of streets and buildings, and Pope's famous grotto is still in being. But neither litterateur nor poet would easily recognise their old haunts were they to revisit the realms of earth. Waldegrave Manor (as it is sometimes called) is left in all its pride of barbarous Gothic (which has received the name of "Strawberry Hill Gothic"), but the Roman Catholic Community, which has lately purchased it, is adding such a vast extension to the already overgrown house, that neither Walpole nor the much-married Lady Waldegrave would readily acclaim the place of their residence. The addition takes the form of a training college and dormitories in a H-planned block of three storeys. The architects are Messrs. Pugin and Pugin, and the contractors are L. H. and R. Roberts; Locke & Soares are carrying out the electrical installation. A large Gothic chapel forms a feature of the new work. The elevations are in yellow bricks with stone liberally introduced. The quiet treatment in Gothic maintains an air of harmony, without the introduction of an offensive note. Just opposite this mammoth extension in Waldegrave Road some modern houses are being erected by H. Joyce & Son. In Strawberry Vale (at the rear of the Manor House and with gardens leading down to the river bank) Mr. J. A. Blake, A.R.I.B.A., is designing less or more similar houses, which are being built by W. A. York—the usual modern two-storey structure. Gingell and Lane are putting up a detached two-storeyed house in Tower Road, which formed part of the estate as we remember it in the possession of the late Lord Michelham. In Cross Deep, Mr. Harold S. Scott, A.R.I.B.A., is engaged upon several two-storeyed houses, and on the opposite side of that thoroughfare J. A. Whitehead has undertaken the development of the estate, so long pining in the open market.

We are pleased to note that the well-known firm of Thomas Falso & Co., Ltd., have secured the contract for the supply of their asphalte to those three important blocks on the site of old Devonshire House, Piccadilly; we refer, of course, to the new Devonshire House, to Devonshire Court and to Messrs. Thomas Cook & Sons' new head offices (particulars of which we shall be shortly furnishing). The total area of asphalting will be about 22,000 yards super.

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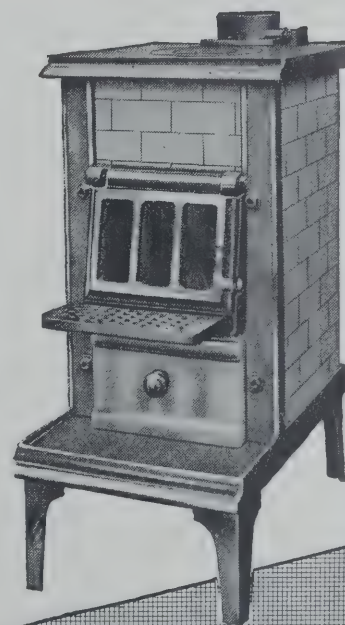
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General News.

BERMONDSEY.—Messrs. Culpin & Bowers have prepared a lay-out plan for the erection of 26 houses on the Salisbury Street area.—Alterations at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome are to be carried out by Messrs. Antill, Ltd., for the London Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Plans passed: structural alterations, Cotton's Wharf, Tooley Street, for Hay's Wharf, Ltd.; sheds and drainage, Jamaica Road, for Mr. Malo W. Matts, architect for Territorial Army Association.

BOLTON.—The borough engineer, Mr. E. L. Morgan, A.M.I.C.E., has prepared plans for the erection of 18 blocks of flats, 4 flats in each block a total of 72 flats on a site off Union Road. Tenders are to be invited.

BRADFORD.—The Education Committee have approved plans for the provision of a boys' department at the Margaret McMillan School, Thackley, at a cost of £13,000.—The Clock House estate has now been purchased for the proposed new grammar school.—Plans passed: 12 houses, Lodore Road, for Mr. T. Miller; 32 houses, Highfield Road, for Mr. Alfred Robinson; 6 houses, Gain Lane, for Messrs. Harrison & Jowett; 7 houses, Durham Road, for Mr. L. Foster; 8 houses, Oakdale Road, for Mr. A. E. Akeroyd.

CHELTENHAM.—Mr. Malvern has prepared plans for 15 houses and the Corporation are to invite tenders.—Plans passed: Showroom and workshop, Bath Street, for Mr. L. Paynter; additions, Shelburne Hall, Lansdown Road, for Mr. L. Mercer; alterations, 340 High Street, for International Stores, Ltd.

COULSDON.—Mr. P. Holt is inquiring from the Council regarding a site in Banstead Road for the erection of a public hall.—Messrs. Richardson & Jones propose the erection of 83 subsidy houses in Portnalls Road and Chipstead Valley Road.—Plans passed: 50 houses, Seldson Garden Village, for Mr. C. Guest; new streets and 84 houses adjoining Chipstead Valley Road, for Messrs. Richardson & Jones; 2 blocks of shops and dwellings, Seldson Garden Village, for Messrs. Richard Costain & Sons.

HASTINGS.—Plans passed: Continuation of Charles Road West, for Messrs. Callow & Callow, architects; alterations London Trader p.h., East Beach Street, for Mr. J. Hunt, architect; 3 houses, Bexhill Road, for Mr. H. Hollands; 12 garages, Braybrooke Road, for Mr. H. M. Jeffrey, architect; alterations, 61 and 62, Cambridge Road, for Messrs. Hy. Ward & Son, architects; 3 lock-up shops, Carisbrooke Road, for Mr. P. H. Oxley, architect; alterations 51 Robertson Street, for Messrs. E. Pollard & Co., architects.

HORNSEY.—The Education Committee have decided to construct an open-air school on the Coldfall site, for which plans are to be prepared by Mr. H. Carter Pegg, F.R.I.B.A.—Another hundred houses are to be erected on the housing estate at Muswell Hill.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Cranley Gardens, for Messrs. Newborn & Smith, 6 New Square, Lincoln's Inn; 7 houses, Lauradale Road and one in Lynmouth Road, for Mr. Andrew Park; 5 houses, Briston Grove, for Mr. Alfred Thomas Day; 7 houses, Sandringham Gardens, for Messrs. Hooper & Hooper; 12 houses, Fordington Road, for Messrs. Smerdon Bros.; block of flats, Woodside, Fortis Green, for Rockfield Garden Village, Ltd.; 13 houses, Priory Gardens, for Mr. Thomas Cude, of High Barnet.

INCE.—Messrs. W. C. Ralph & Sons, architects, Wigan, have prepared plans for the erection of new council schools, at Rosebridge. Tenders for the scheme have not yet been invited.

KIRKHAM.—Mr. Frank Roberts, architect, Ash Street, Fleetwood, has in hand a scheme for the erection of new club premises for the Kirkham and Wesham Working Men's Club Committee, the site is situated facing Mellor Road. Contract is not yet placed. Plans are being prepared by Messrs. Whittaker and Gardner, architects, Birley Street, Blackpool, for the proposed extensions to the Church Memorial House.

LEWISHAM.—Powers are to be sought by the L.C.C. to enable the Lewisham B.C. to make use of land already in their possession for the erection of a public hall, offices, shops and other purposes.

PLYMOUTH.—The Gt. Western (Plymouth) Housing Society, Ltd., have decided to build 86 houses on the Beechfield estate.—Fresh tenders are to be invited for additions and alterations at the central police offices.—Plans passed: Store, Finewell Street, for Messrs. Brown, Wills & Nicholson; additions, Vine Hotel, Admiral's Hard Ope, for Messrs. H. & G. Simmonds; 8 houses, Landhydrock Road, for Mr. A. C. Jones; shop premises, 19 George Street, for Messrs. Page, Keen & Page; new street, Mount Gould estate, for Lady Astor Housing Trust; 6 houses, Hillside Avenue, for Mr. F. Packer; 6 houses, Northdown Road, for Mr. F. Westcott.

PORTSMOUTH.—The Board of Guardians have prepared sketch plans for the new children's homes to be erected at Portdown Hill, accommodation being provided for 204 children on the cottage home system.

PORTSMOUTH.—The Board of Guardians are raising a loan of £74,000 for capital expenditure for children's homes, etc.—The Corporation are to seek authority to raise a loan of £750,000 for electricity extensions, etc.—It has been decided to give the subsidy in respect of a further 300 houses.—Plans have been prepared for a combined maternity hospital and child welfare centre at a cost of £12,000 in Fratton Road.—A site in Fratton Road is recommended for the erection of workshops for the blind.—Plans passed: 22 houses, Mayfield Road, for Mr. C. M. Scarley; 46 houses, off St. Roman Bridge site, for Mr. F. J. Privett; 16 houses, Idsworth Road, for Messrs. Mouncher & Son; store, Commercial Road, for Messrs. Barnes & Seager; 7 houses, Selsey Avenue, for Mr. S. A. Evans; 22 houses, Asylum Road, for Mr. M. Berney.

ROYTON.—The directors of the Shiloh Spinning Co. have now purchased land adjoining the property of the company for the erection of a new mill, the project having been confirmed by the shareholders.—The plans have been prepared by Mr. Arthur Turner, architect, Clegg Street, Oldham, for the erection of a mill of 100,000 spindles, and the contractors Messrs. S. & J. Smethurst, Ltd., of Oldham, have already commenced building operations.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—The Corporation have decided to engage Messrs. T. A. Page & Son as architects to prepare plans for a fire station and offices for the Weights and Measures Department on a site in West Keppel Street.—The Tyne Dock Land Co. have prepared plans for the development of an estate adjoining Deans Occupation Road by the erection of 248 dwellings in flats and 28 shops.—Plans passed: Shops, Woodbine Street, for Messrs. T. A. Page & Son; extension, children's ward, Ingham Infirmary, Westoe Road, for Messrs. J. H. Morton & Son for governors; alterations, Royal Arms Hotel, Albemarle Street, for Messrs. Deuchar, Ltd.; alterations, Catherine House p.h., Woodbine Street, for Messrs. T. A. Page & Son.

STALYBRIDGE.—The Board of Education have agreed to the scheme of the Education Committee for the erection of a school for about 350 children at West Hill.

STRET福德.—Mr. Percy Howard, A.R.I.B.A., architect, of 88 Mosley Street, Manchester, has been instructed to prepare quantities in connection with the scheme for the erection of a proposed open-air school at Longford Park for which he has prepared the plans, the estimated cost is £10,700. The plans have been submitted to the Board of Education for approval.

STRET福德.—The Board of Education have approved the scheme of the Education Committee for the erection of an open-air school at Longford Park, at a cost of £7,720.—Plans passed: extending Church Street, for de Trafford Estate; 4 houses, Church Street, for Messrs. Hosker Bros.; 7 houses, Sandy Lane, for Mr. J. W. Maunders; 4 houses, Halvis Grove, for Messrs. Halliday & Davis; bank, Ashburton Road, for District Banking Co., Ltd.

TORQUAY.—The Board of Education have sanctioned the plans for the Westhill Council school for which a loan of £30,000 has been sanctioned.—Lloyd's Bank, Ltd., have a scheme for the reconstruction of the premises of the old Half Moon Hotel, Union Street.—Plans passed: 4 houses, Westhill Road, for Mr. H. Jackman; 4 houses, Sherwill Park Road, for Chelston Building Co.; workshop, Castle Road, for Dr. Dunn.

WAKEFIELD.—A scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for the extension of the Maternity Hospital; the plans have been prepared by the city surveyor, Mr. L. Ives, and is estimated to cost £5,000.

WIGAN.—The Borough Council have decided that the scheme for the erection of houses on the Bottling Wood estate shall be carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the borough engineer, Mr. R. B. Donald, M.I.C.E., who has the preparation of the plans in hand.—Mr. W. Harold Johnson, architect, King Street, is preparing plans for the erection of new fronts to property at No. 1, Diconson Street for Mr. James Glover, and Nos. 74 and 76 Standish Gate for Mr. V. Standish.

WOODFORD.—A new bank is to be erected in George Lane.

WORSBOROUGH.—The Electrical Distribution of Yorkshire, Ltd., are proposing to erect a sub-station at Cutting End. The District Council have approved a scheme for the erection of 22 houses under the Housing Act, 1924.

YORK.—The Corporation have decided to invite tenders for the erection of 350 houses of three bedroom type and 56 of two bedroom type.—Plans passed: Offices and stores, Peasholme Green, for Adams Hydraulics, Ltd.; mechanic's shop, Vine Street estate, for Messrs. J. Terry & Sons, Ltd.; alterations, Newcastle Arms, George Street, for John Smith's Tadcaster Brewery Co., Ltd.; 10 houses, Huntingdon Road for Messrs. Culliford & Tindall; 10 houses, Kilburn Road, for Mr. H. E. Harrowell.

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Tenders Accepted and Recommended

Proposed club in Broad Street, by E. Meredith, A.R.I.B.A., architect, 7 Goodmayes Road, Goodmayes, Essex, Dagenham, for the Dagenham Working Men's Club and Institute. Messrs. H. J. Gower, Ltd., Cheapside, £4,250. Proposed house, Bennetts Castle Lane, Chadwell Heath, by E. Meredith, A.R.I.B.A., architect, for Dr. Elphick. Messrs. F. W. Romain & Sons, Chadwell Heath, £1,470.—Alterations and additions to 57, Goodmayes Road, Goodmayes, by the same architect, for Madam Drury. Messrs. Baker, Hammond & Laver, Ltd., Rainham, £1,043 10s.—Proposed house in Broad Street, Dagenham, also by E. Meredith, A.R.I.B.A., architect, for Dr. Sherwell. Messrs. Baker, Hammond & Laver, Ltd., Rainham, £987.

Biggleswade, Beds. For erection of Foden sheds for Messrs. Wells & Winch, Ltd., brewers. Architects, Messrs. Cockrill & Sellek, 7 St. Paul's Square, Bedford, and Market Chambers, Biggleswade. Bartle & Son, Potton, £1,139 accepted.

Bank and new premises for the Middleton and Tonge Co-operative Land and Building Society, Ltd., Middleton, Lancashire. T. A. Fitton & Son, Architects and Surveyors, Corporation Chambers, 19 Corporation Street, Manchester, Mr. Robert Taylor, Middleton, tender of £9,150 has been accepted; the architect's estimate was £9,500.

For the erection of a new ring frame shed 250 feet long by 90 feet wide, for Messrs. Holdsworth Bros., cotton spinners, Higher Bridge Street, Bolton, Messrs. Bradshaw, Gass & Hope, F.F.A.R.I.B.A., architects, Silverwell Street; William Gornall & Sons, Ltd., Bury, for the erection of a water tower at Cantley, for the Doncaster Corporation, Mr. F. O. Kerby, surveyor; W. & J. Sykes, Ltd., Middlesbrough, £8,085, for the erection of a proposed car shed, Birchfields Road, Fallowfield, for the Manchester City Council, Mr. Henry Price, A.R.I.B.A., City Architect; general builders' work, J. Partington & Son, Ltd., Middleton Junction; steelwork and cast iron work, Lambourne, Ltd., Openshaw; for the erection of houses on the Moston Estate, for the Manchester City Council, Mr. Henry Price, A.R.I.B.A., City Architect; Grimshaw & Thomas, Ltd., Stretford, 200 houses; Corralite Construction Co., Ltd., London, 140 houses; for the erection of new schools in connection with the Abbey Church, for the Ellist Trust, Selby, Mr. J. Bilson, F.R.I.B.A., architect, 23 Parliament Street, Hull: J. H. Carr & Sons, £15,000; for the extension of the Sacred Heart R.C. Schools, Wigan, for the Rev. Father Greenhouse, Messrs. Prescott & Bold, architects, King Street: Frank Orrell, £5,000; for the erection of a new vicarage for the Parochial Council of St. Paul's Church, Withnell, Mr. Robert Martin, architect, Diocesan Surveyor, 90 Deansgate, Manchester: Leonard Fairclough, Adlington, £3,029; for the erection of 6 houses at Kaggstones, Oughtibridge, for the Wortley R.D.C., Mr. F. Thurlby, District Surveyor, Grene Buildings, Grene Side: Marlow & Sons, Sheffield, £2,156; South Shields Corporation have accepted the tender, £1,540, of Messrs. Gustavus Bailey, Ltd., for the erection of three houses in Park Avenue; the L.C.C. Housing Committee recommend the tender, £15,589 14s., of Messrs. R. Woollaston & Co., Turners Road, E., for the erection of tenements on the Whitmore estate, Hoxton; Bristol Corporation have placed the following contracts: Mr. J. Moore, 24 non-parlour houses; Mr. A. W. Norris, 6 parlour houses and 2 non-parlour houses; Mr. C. Hewell, 6 parlour houses; Mr. A. J. Miller, 8 parlour houses; Messrs. Thornton Hall & Co., 12 non-parlour houses and Mr. C. Zwart, 22 non-parlour houses. The total contract price is £35,880, an average of £448 per house.

The L.C.C. Housing Committee recommend the tender, £25,522, of Messrs. E. D. Winn & Co., for the erection of dwellings, comprising 51 tenements on the Dickens estate, Bermondsey; Sheffield Corporation Housing Committee have accepted the tender, £19,226 6s. 7d., of Messrs. M. J. Gleeson, Ltd., for the erection of 54 houses on the Wybourn estate and the tender of £18,450 of Mr. G. M. Payling, for the erection of 36 houses on the Dykes Hall estate; Hornsey Corporation Housing Committee recommend a contract with Messrs. Rowley Bros., Ltd., for the erection of 108 houses on the Muswell Hill estate; Hornsey Education Committee recommend the tender, £53,219 of Messrs. Patman & Fotheringham, Ltd., of Islington, for the erection of an elementary school, including special instruction centre and swimming bath in Rokesby Avenue; Billingsgate Market Committee of the City Corporation, recommend the tender, £6,449, of Messrs. L. & W. Whitehead, Ltd., for the erection of sheds on a site in Pudding Lane; Plymouth Corporation Housing Committee have accepted the tender, £11,291 6s. 10d., of the Plymouth Builders, Ltd., for the erection of two blocks of houses containing 24 flats at Pottery Quay; Plymouth Corpora-

tion have accepted the tender, £1,349 of Messrs. G. N. Haden & Son, Ltd., for reorganising the hot water system at the mental hospital.

In connection with the White Abbey clearance scheme, the Health Committee of the Bradford Corporation recommend a contract with Mr. Alec Dickinson to erect on land belonging to him at Eccleshill 42 semi-detached houses at £475 per house and 1s. 9d. per square yard for the land.

Burton-on-Trent Corporation have accepted the tender (£8,150) of Messrs. G. Hodges & Son, of Burton, for pulling down Park House and erecting 16 houses on the site.

Portsmouth Corporation Tramways Committee recommend the tender (£1,226) of Messrs. David Rowell & Co., Ltd., for the erection of a tramway shelter in Town Hall Square.

Electric Clocks.

Electric clocks and timepieces controlled by electricity have established a reputation for themselves. In offices where it is so essential that everything should be in organised clock-work order, the installation of a system that will guarantee the exact same time in every department has such obvious advantages as to need no further comment.

The "Magneta" electric time system differs fundamentally from all other systems, in that no battery or other outside source of current is resorted to; consequently there are no maintenance expenses. The "Magneta" master clock is a particularly accurate timekeeper, the full seconds pendulum being of Invar steel, and therefore not affected by changes in temperature, and the bob of elliptical form which reduces to a minimum the effects of variation in atmospheric density. The "Magneta" master clock incorporates a Graham dead beat escapement, and the pendulum is mechanically maintained by a remontoir spring which has sufficient power to maintain the pendulum for approximately thirty minutes. This spring, however, is re-wound each minute, which results in the arc of the pendulum being kept at a constant amplitude. The pendulum has no additional work such as the operation of count wheels or other devices for periodically making contact in the secondary clock circuit.

The current required to actuate the various secondary clocks is generated by the master clock itself, and transmitted precisely at the sixtieth second of each minute, these impulses are always of precisely equal strength and duration. The master clock and various secondary clocks are wired up in one series circuit, there being no contacts in any part of the whole system.

There is no current in the circuit at any time between the impulses, consequently, should a short develop on the circuit, no possible damage through fire can occur, as the current generated by the "Magneta" master clock, while providing a margin of safety not less than 100 per cent., is so minute that it is impossible to produce a spark.

The "Magneta" system is unique in that line resistance has no practical effect whatever upon the working of the clocks. There are "Magneta" installations involving circuits of fifty or sixty miles in length, and no additional apparatus of any sort is used, the whole system consisting merely of the "Magneta" master clock, wiring, and the "Magneta" secondary clocks.

Buying up Parks.

This year has been notable for the number of parks that have been rescued from the speculative builder. Local authorities have bought the park of 200 acres at Gunnersbury, and allocated 13½ acres for building purposes. Braunstone Park, of 1,064 acres was bought during October by the Corporation of Leicester, while Nottingham has taken over Wollaxton Hall from Lord Middleton. Of 800 acres, 300 are to be used for housing and industrial purposes, and for the provision of a town planning ring road. The purchase of Ken Wood, and its addition to Hampstead Heath, are matters of recent history. It is hoped that in the near future, the National Trust will be able to purchase Ashridge Park in Buckinghamshire.

SHEFFIELD.—The Corporation Tramways Committee have approved plans for the new depot garage at Tenter Street, the cost being estimated at £100,000.—The City Architect has prepared plans for the extension of the Rivelin filter house, and tenders are to be invited.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan of £12,000 in connection with the lay-out of the Shiregreen cemetery.—Plans passed: 6 houses, Retford Road, for Mr. Frank H. Teanby; 6 houses, Langsett Avenue, for Mr. P. H. Slater; 12 houses, Greystones Road, for Messrs. W. Malthouse, Ltd.; 4 houses, Woodhouse Road, for Messrs. Henry Boot & Sons, Ltd.

CONTENTS.

East Kent Regional Planning Scheme	PAGE 437	Book Notices	PAGE 445
The Tragic Side of Things	440	R.I.B.A. Meeting	446
Strainers.—II	441	Law Reports	449
Art Galleries and Exhibitions	444	General News	452

East Kent Regional Planning Scheme.*

This scheme is the outcome of a conference of the various local authorities of the districts affected, held at the suggestion of the Ministry of Health in Canterbury in May, 1923. The following authorities decided to join in the scheme:—Blean Rural District Council, Bridge R.D.C., Broadstairs and St. Peters U.D.C., Canterbury Corporation, Deal Corporation, Dover Corporation and R.D.C., Eastry R.D.C., Eltham R.D.C., Folkestone Corporation, Herne Bay U.D.C., the Isle of Thanet R.D.C., Margate Corporation, Ramsgate Corporation, Sandwich Corporation, Walmer U.D.C. and Whitstable U.D.C. At a second meeting Professor Patrick Abercrombie was instructed to draw up a Regional Survey of the district affected.

The aim of the Survey is to reconcile the development of a new industrial area brought into existence by the development of a new coalfield in a region which has up to now been one of the pleasant residential and holiday resorts of England with that of the amenities of agricultural parts of the country.

The area lends itself to the purposes of preservation and development well as the valley of the Stour divides the coalfield from the ring of pleasure towns on the north-east of the county. The colliery development is chiefly centred in the sparsely inhabited Eastry district and Bridge and Dover rural areas, where it can be so disposed as not to destroy any existing villages. Canterbury and Folkestone are outside the coal area, while Dover will be developing along lines which were inevitable when the new harbour was formed and is destined to become more and more of an industrial centre. Sandwich and Deal, on the other hand, with the strip of coast between them, will require stringent protection if they are not to be changed in character.

The area of the new coalfield may be described as being bounded by a line drawn to the south of the Isle of Thanet continued eastward to within a few miles north and east of Canterbury and bent southward to a few miles east of Folkestone. Iron deposits are supposed to extend under the south-east quarter of this area. The existence of coal measures under east Kent had been suspected from the middle of last century, but was not finally proved until 1890 when coal measures were struck at a depth of 1,157 feet from the surface at the foot of the Shakespeare Cliff at Dover. Though coal was first discovered in the southern part of the area it appears likely that it exists at less depth and under more easily workable conditions in the northern area. Messrs. Pearson and Dorman Long are operating in several districts and have been among the first great firms to recognise the great value of the new coal developments.

The estimates of the amount of coal contained in Kent by various authorities naturally vary. Dr.

Aubrey Strahan of the Geological Survey puts it at 2,000,000,000 tons while Mr. H. Starley Jevons estimates the reserve of proved coal at 6,000,000,000 with a probable further increase of 3,600,000,000 tons, together making a total of 9,600,000,000 tons. If the figure of 6,000,000,000 is taken and the coalfield is exploited by 18 or 20 collieries each raising in full working order 750,000 tons per annum, this would give a life of 400 to 450 years to the coalfield.

The first pits being of the nature of trial pits are not located scientifically owing to imperfect knowledge, and several of them, including the Dover pit, have been already abandoned for coal. Some consist of mere surface workings, but after examination it has been decided to take 18 pits as a basis of calculation as to the future needs of the area as far as development is concerned. It is suggested in the report that electrical power should be used for working the pits as this would eliminate smoke, the necessity for tall chimneys, large pit head buildings and other accessories which have made our older coalfields hideous.

The existing population of East Kent is 300,000 and a calculation of the new population needed for development is put down at 278,000 which together with the normal growth of population, amounting to 99,300, produces a total of about 680,000. But taking the population of Eastry, part of Bridge, and the Dover Rural area at 28,500, the population of this area may be increased to 250,000. This would mean an entire revolution from a quiet agricultural district to an urban area containing one town as large as Ramsgate or Folkestone, four the size of Canterbury, and two as big as Deal or Herne Bay.

The various ways of grouping the additional population are defined as being (a) by additions to existing towns; (b) by scattering the population over the whole area; and (c) the formation of a definite number of new towns conveniently situated with respect to the new coalfields. The authors of the report for very sound reasons consider this last the best method of dealing with the problem, both for purposes of convenience and economy and also from the point of view of preserving the amenities of the area. They have therefore indicated the positions in which such towns should be located in respect to the location of the various additions to existing population are suggested in respect to collieries suggested, while eight new towns would be Chislet, New Littlebourne, Wingham, Woodnesborough, Ham, Martin Mill, Nonington and Shepherds Well, which would accommodate 170,500 and require an acreage of 2,850 acres.

The considerations which determine this question of location are defined as being ease of building development, general amenity of the sites in themselves, economic drainage accessibility, preservation of the most valuable agricultural land and harmony with the existing landscape.

The question of ports to deal with the shipping of coal have also been carefully considered, the suggestions being that among them the choice seems to lie between

* "East Kent Regional Planning Scheme," prepared for the Joint Committee of Local Authorities, by Patrick Abercrombie, in collaboration with John Archibald. The University Press of Liverpool, and Hodder & Stoughton, London. 12/6 net.

Reculver, Sandwich Haven or Richborough, Dover, or a new port north of Deal, but a port capable of dealing with as much business as Barry, near Cardiff, will ultimately have to be provided. We have only briefly been able to refer to what seem to us to be the most salient features in a comprehensive and very carefully written report which deals with every aspect of a most complicated and difficult problem, but we must congratulate all parties concerned, first the Ministry of Health for having taken up the question in its initial stage, then the wisdom and foresight shown by the authorities concerned in combining for

the solution of the problem in a sound and comprehensive manner, and lastly in the selection of Professor Abercrombie to go into the whole question, as his previous work at Dublin, Doncaster, and other districts show how completely he has mastered the problem of regional development. This new branch of study and investigation alone can save us in the present from creating eyesores and slums which will embarrass us in the future and may enable us to leave to our descendants a country enriched by the work of our time instead of one which has combined the evils of the haphazard development of the 19th century.

Our Illustrations.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, NEW TOWN HALL, NOTTINGHAM. CECIL T. HOWITT, Architect.

ALTAR PIECE AND PANELLING, GILLINGHAM CHURCH, DORSET. H. P. BURKE DOWNING, F.S.A., Architect.

DOUGGA MAUSOLEUM, MOROCCO ; SULTANS' TOMBS, MARRAKESH, MOROCCO.

From photos kindly lent by ARTHUR J. DAVIS, ESQ. (MEWES & DAVIS, Architects).

Notes and Comments.

The Coming of Age of the Heritage Schools.

We have before us some beautifully produced booklets printed to commemorate the twenty-first anniversary of the foundation of the Heritage Craft Schools, the purpose of which is to educate and train cripples. The movement owed its origin to the foundation on St. Martin's Day, 1894, of the Guild of Poor Brave Things, which was inspired by Mrs. Horatio Ewing's book "The Story of a Short Life." Irrespective of age, creed, or any other limit, the guild gathers together all maimed people, whether men, women or children. In addition to the social work of the guild at its headquarters, The Chapter House of Southwark Cathedral, St. Thomas Street, E.C., very sound educational work is done at the Heritage Craft Schools and Homes for Crippled Children, at Chailey in Sussex, which were founded in 1903. The aim of these schools is to enable crippled children who show special talent to be thoroughly trained and become in time partially or wholly self-supporting. The trades include woodwork and cabinet-making in all its branches, leather work, sign writing, while the girls specialise in needlework and children's clothing, domestic economy, housewifery and laundry work. Music and singing, together with physical exercise and remedial treatment from a part of the course.

Funds are, of course, urgently needed, for £1,000 a bed might be endowed in perpetuity ; for £25 a donor may act as godfather or godmother to a child for one year, or have their name over a cot from one Armistice Day to the next ; and those who give a donation of £1 or over will receive a signed copy of one of Mrs. Richard King's books. We are informed that through lack of funds there is a long waiting list for admission, and Sir Robert Jones, K.B.E., C.B., the famous orthopædic surgeon, who has promised his voluntary help in connection with a proposed operating theatre, says "As soon as we get a staff together and the theatre going I do not think there will be a place like Chailey in the whole world."

New Names for Streets.

A Burnley contemporary discusses the proposal to name new streets on the Palace House site after various English counties. The first five are to be named Durham Avenue, Norfolk Avenue, Hereford Avenue, Surrey Avenue and Essex Avenue. Our contemporary observes that new streets must be named and the idea of adopting some system in the matter is good. But why counties, and why not names with some local significance? We think this is quite to the point and the suggestion that the names of freemen of the borough should be utilised is a reasonable one. If it were possible and it sometimes is, we believe names of streets should be chosen which would clearly

indicate their locality and could not be appropriately used in another position. This, and a more systematic method of numbering houses, would save a good deal of trouble. We believe it should be possible to say, for instance, that number 287 meant 287 from the south or east end of a street and that an odd number represented one side of a street and an even number the other. Nothing is so irritating when one is in a hurry on a dark night as the effort to discover the whereabouts of some house because of the casual and haphazard want of arrangement which is so usual a feature in our towns and suburbs.

A "Paint" Dinner.

Messrs. Ingham Clarke & Co. and Messrs. R. Gay & Co. gave a very pleasant dinner at the Trocadero Restaurant on the 10th to the wholesale buyers of paint. It was pointed out that the firms in question concentrated their energies on the manufacture and production of the best paints, and that their policy was to encourage the wholesale buyers in every way by treating them as friendly allies and not on a merely business footing. They wanted to show them everything and to explain everything to them. Their works were always open to inspection and their organisation such that they could deal with any demands made upon them. An excellent spirit pervaded the meeting and in their various speeches the wholesale buyers showed their appreciation of the liberal and friendly manner in which they were treated, and their willingness to cooperate with Messrs. Ingham Clarke in the manner indicated.

Irregular Work.

The Liverpool building trade operatives are not inclined to be content with any national agreement arrived at on the subject of wet time, as it is said that not only wet time but other contingencies causing irregular work should be ensured against. Such contingencies include the occasional absence of employment even when work is generally plentiful ; the stoppages which occur when materials are not forthcoming, and so on. But we believe that though the principle of insurance is doubtless admirable, it may be carried too far. The man who is completely and fully insured against every ill will not exercise initiative and care, nor will he show enterprise and make full use of his personal skill. More than this, complete insurance does not like rain fall from heaven but has to be paid for by contributions which, whether paid for by employer or operative, or both, must diminish wages. We can insure any income at any age if we care to pay a sufficient premium, but the payment of such a premium may prove the most grievous of heavy burdens.

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R.A. 1925.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, NEW T.

MR. CECIL T. O.

DRAWN BY MR. JY

EMBER 18th, 1925.



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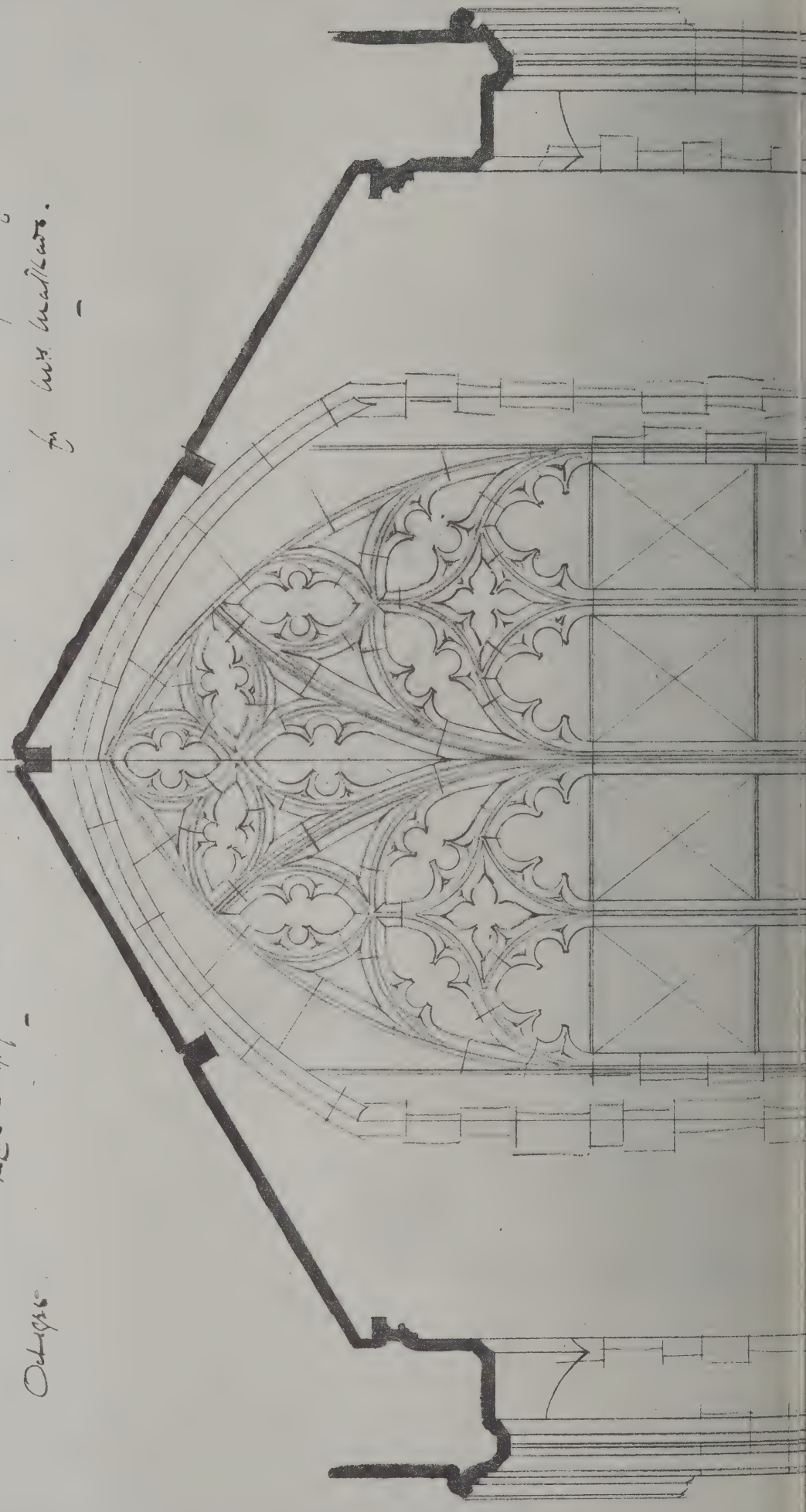
Dioc. of Salisbury.

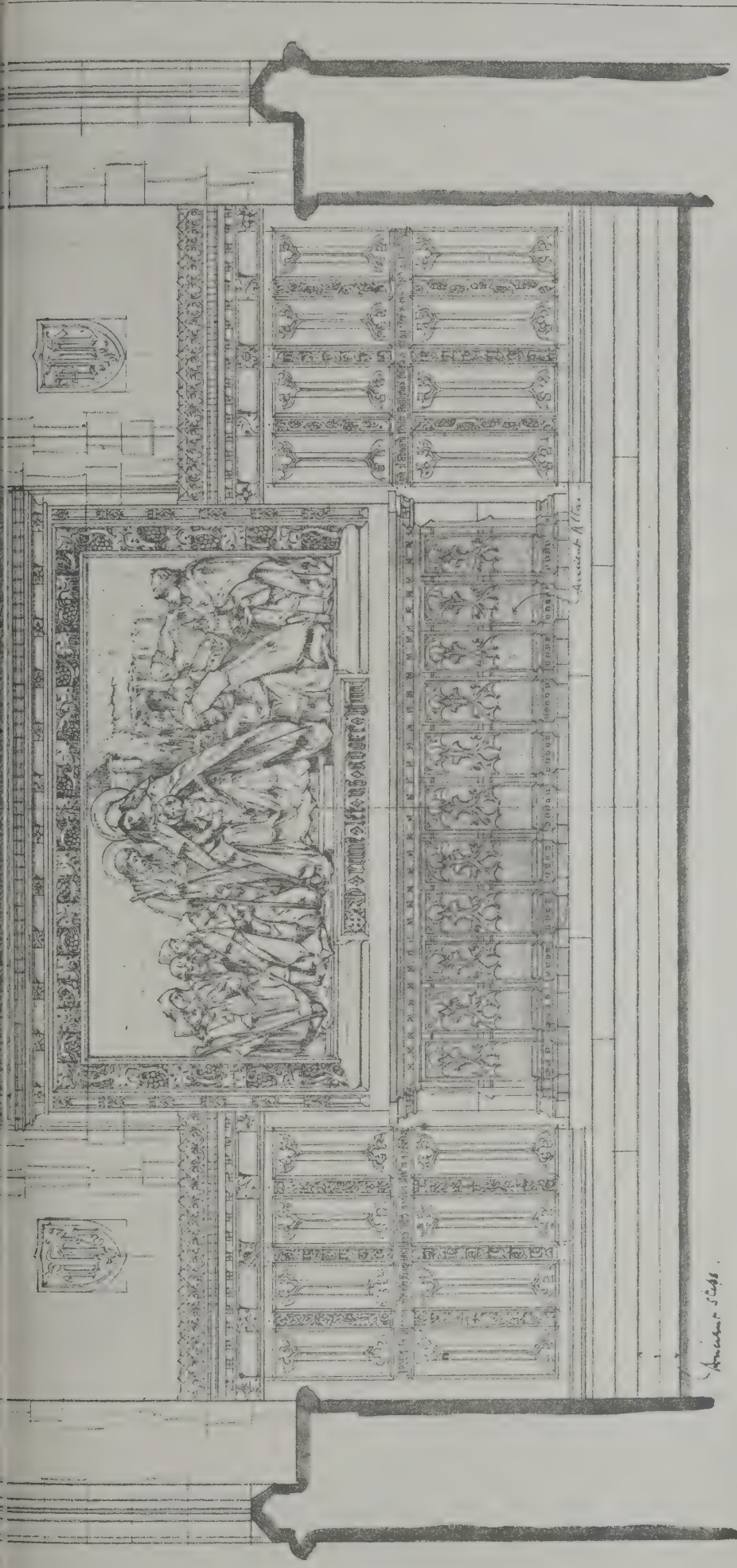
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and of Edward Philip Matthews. Killed in action

16 Sept. 1916. April 20.

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DOUGGA MAUSOLEUM, MOROCCO.

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SULTANS TOMBS, MARRAKESH, MOROCCO.

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RELIEF FROM LIFE. MISS ERICA M. WHITE, Sculptor.

Miss White is only twenty-one, and commenced her studies at the Slade School, taking the diploma in Fine Arts and two Sculpture scholarships. She is now a student at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, Southampton Row, also working in her studio at St. John's Wood, 32a, Queen's Road.

Competition News.

PROPOSED NEW PARISH CHURCH, NEWBRIDGE,
MONMOUTHSHIRE.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of members to the fact that the conditions of the above competition are not in accordance with the regulations of the R.I.B.A. The Competitions Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime members are advised to take no part in the competition.

PROPOSED NEW POLICE AND FIRE BRIGADE STATION,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

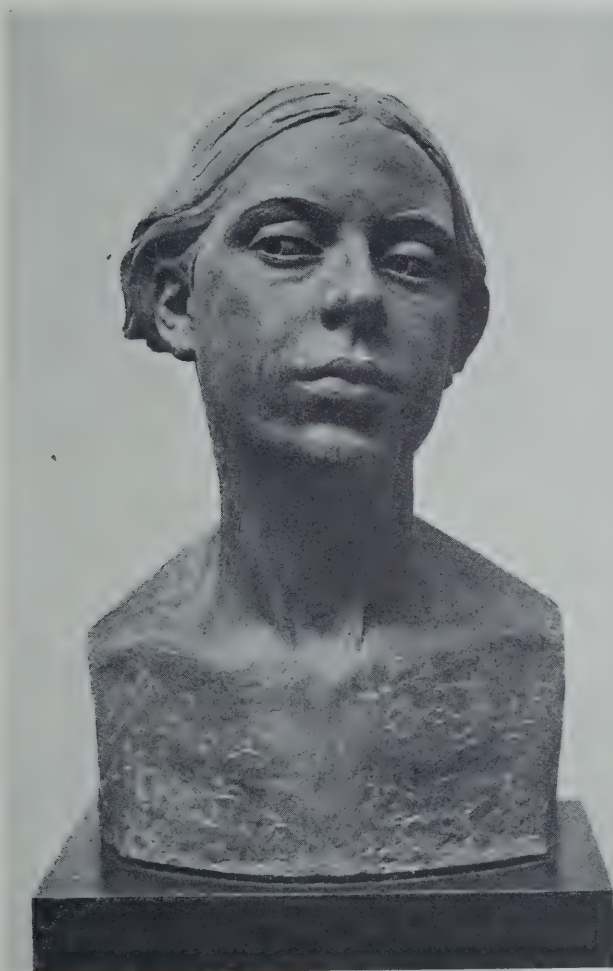
First, Messrs. Ivor Jones & Percy Thomas, 6 & 7, St. John's Square, Cardiff; second, E. Vincent Harris, Esq., 29, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1; third, Messrs. Cackett & Burns-Dick, Pilgrim House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

R.I.B.A. Notes.

FACILITIES FOR ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

The Board of Architectural Education have appointed a special Sub-Committee to view and report upon the existing facilities for architectural education and instruction in building construction in institutions other than those exempted from the R.I.B.A. examinations. This special Sub-Committee is now considering the possibility of the development of existing facilities and of the provision of facilities where none at present exist. The Sub-Committee will be glad to receive suggestions or criticisms from those who are specially interested, together with any information as to existing facilities, stating, if possible, the number of professional students of architecture in attendance at any institution named.

WORKING.—The Council are about to commence the erection of 64 houses.—The British Legion are negotiating with Mr. W. G. Tarrant, of Byfleet, for the erection of a permanent clubhouse.



HEAD OF A GIRL (Life Size). MISS ERICA M. WHITE, Sculptor.

British Institution Scholarship R.A. for Sculpture.

This year the B.I. Scholarship in Sculpture has been awarded to Miss Erica M. White. We illustrate three of the four subjects set by the examiners.

The head here shown was exhibited at this year's Royal Academy, together with one of a laughing child, "The Imp," which is now on exhibition in Glasgow.



COMPOSITION IN THE ROUND, 24 INCHES HIGH: THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN. MISS ERICA M. WHITE, Sculptor.

The Tragic Side of Things. The Clerical Clerk of Works.

By Cetera Desunt.

When my friend Smith returned from the Army (where he did good work in the Secret Service) he had a great run of War Memorials.

On the committees for these he met many ministers.

Sometimes as many as three on one committee.

This was fortunate, as he was keen on Church work.

On one committee he met a young clergyman named Rev. Wesley Bunkum, B.A., who was doing *locum* while on the look-out for a parish.

The parish of Bucky, on the coast of Cockleshire, fell vacant.

Smith knew everybody in this parish, as he had gone to this district for holidays since boyhood.

The Rev. Wesley Bunkum put in for this parish, and asked Smith to use his influence to get him the living.

Smith wrote to everybody he thought would be of use in getting Bunkum the vicarage.

Bunkum got the parish.

As soon as he got settled he sent for Smith to discuss the restoration and decoration of the church.

Smith drew up a most elaborate scheme, a scheme which would have made Southwold, Ranworth and Knapton look pale and cheap. The Rev. W. Bunkum approved of the scheme. The alterations commenced. Funds would not allow of a Clerk of Works, so Smith visited the work once and sometimes twice a week to keep his eye on the local contractors. The contractors were good men and mostly knew their job. The Vicarage was next the church. Bunkum practically lived in the church. Before breakfast even he was in, bossing everybody. There was nothing he did not know about strains and stresses, decoration and design. The tradesmen got sick of it and went on strike. They refused to lift a hammer until Bunkum kept out of the place. Smith hurried down and after much trouble got things started again. For two weeks Bunkum kept out of the place. He then returned and was as bad as ever. He was anxious to get the work finished before he went for his holidays. However, the work of restoration and alterations was ultimately finished and the decoration commenced. It was rather a new type of decoration for house painters, so Smith

decided to spend his holidays on the scaffold with the men. He showed them how to space the diapers and stencils and adapt them to corners and irregular spaces. Everything went well for about three weeks. One day Smith had gone down to the beach after lunch as usual to have a swim when the Rev. W. Bunkum came racing down on a bicycle. Smith was just stepping out of his shirt. With great excitement Bunkum stated that all the wall head stencils and certain other decorative features must be removed, as the chief heritor objected to the symbolism.

Smith knew that the chief heritor had never seen the work and asked Bunkum to arrange a meeting with the heritor at the church. This Bunkum refused to do.

Smith refused to remove the decoration in question.

Bunkum stated in that case he would have it removed as soon as the work was completed. On hearing this Smith informed Bunkum that he threw up the job. He did so, and left by the first train, wiring to me to dine with him that night. He then told me the whole story.

Before leaving he told the painter to remove the decoration in question and in future to take his instructions from the Rev. Wesley Bunkum.

Smith found out later that the only person who objected to the symbolism was the verger, an eighty-year-old converted drunkard. The Rev. W. Bunkum ruined the scheme of decoration and disputed all the accounts after the work was finished.

Smith refused to make any deductions from the accounts and the contractors were ultimately all paid in full.

If parsons were made to realise that they are paid for converting souls, visiting the widow and fatherless, and not for dabbling in Art, ecclesiastical art might make some real progress.

It is a good proverb, "Let the shoemaker stick to his last."

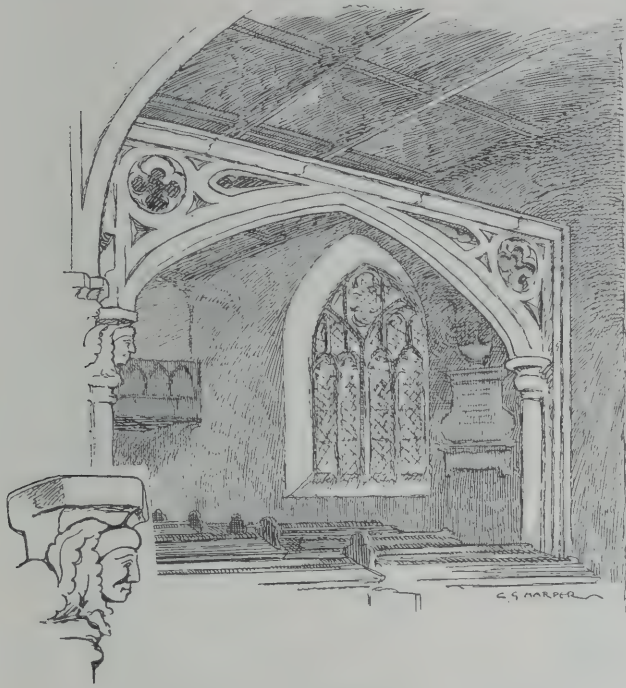
It is quite unnecessary in a post-Locarno world (where we all love each other) for the author to state that in this Tragic Series the characters are all purely fictitious.

SOUTHFIELD.—Plans passed by Borough Council: 6 houses Granville Road, for Messrs. Blyth, Ltd.

Strainers. II.

By Charles G. Harper.

The great abbey church of Dorchester, in Oxfordshire, extends eastwards to a brook which in a little distance joins the Thame. This brook, insignificant though it be in size, runs deep down in a channel only three or four feet outside



STRAINER ARCH, PORTISHEAD CHURCH.

the eastern walls of the church; and obviously it was for this reason that the peculiar east window was designed in the singular form it displays. It is a very large window of the mid-fourteenth century period. Actually the danger of the whole of the east wall sliding into the brook must have been great from the very beginning. Without going into the question of why the church should have been built to extend to so dangerous a position (a question which, in any case, could not now be resolved), we here have a strainer-buttress which actually, like its fellow-buttresses on either side of the window, is obviously a part of the original



EAST WINDOW, DORCHESTER ABBEY.

design. It extends up through the middle of the window to somewhat beyond the springing of the arch. It can scarce be claimed that this is a beautiful, or any more than a purely utilitarian, feature: yet it is remarkable that we find in modern church practice numerous instances of the like feature being adopted, and wholly without the plea of necessity.

A curious and heavy strainer-buttress is to be seen at the parish church of Eye, in Suffolk, on the south side of the chancel, as illustrated here. There is no apparent reason for it—the walls being very substantial, and not lofty; while the ground is perfectly flat. An equally curious flying-buttress, but with a more obvious reason for its existence, is to be found at the south-east angle of



STRAINER BUTTRESS, EYE CHURCH.

the chancel-chapel of the fifteenth century church of St. Sampson, Cricklade, Wilts. This chapel was added to the Decorated chancel, of about a century earlier date; and it was added very clumsily. The illustration shows clearly the awkward way in which this addition was made, partly blocking up a very fine window. It also was apparently built without good foundations, as the necessity for the further addition of the flying buttress, and the subsidence still evident in the out-of-plumb-lines of the chapel abundantly show. The date of the buttress is still visible, carved on the stonework: "Anno Domini 1569."

In the same district is the ancient stone-built town of Cirencester: Shakespeare's "Ciceter," and now commonly called by the local people "Ciren." "The noblest thing in Cirencester is the beautiful old church, rising in midst of the town, in the remarkably broad High Street, with much of that scale and stateliness we associate with a cathedral. It is one of the noblest works of the Perpendicular period, when architects grew more aspiring, but did not always succeed in building either as artistically or with such stability as experience might have led us to expect they would do. Cirencester church is, however, a notable work, even if its capacity for standing upright ever was a matter of grave doubtings



STRAINER ARCH, RUSHDEN CHURCH.

of the west window of the south transept, is carried across that window to the cornice of the transept at its junction with the south-west angle of the tower. It is a great and a spectacular work, its aim at utility not in the least disguised; but the low point at which it impinges upon the tower suggests either that it has missed its aim or that it was the lower (and more ancient) stage of the tower that was designed to be protected rather than the lofty fifteenth-



GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.

century addition. Other strainers of less spectacular appearance give their support, notably supporting the western side of the tower at a somewhat higher point of application. The first-mentioned of these strainers presents a very odd appearance in the interior, and indeed this central tower of Gloucester is so tied up and provided with stone crutches that it presents the most outstanding example of this kind of work.

Strange doings in the way of strainers once prevented the falling of the central tower of Hereford Cathedral. Cottingham in 1846, and Professor Willis some few years later, made examinations and reports on that tower and discovered that at some remote time the Norman lower part and the belfry stage had been strengthened. The interior pillar on all four sides had the intervals between them filled with broken stones, loam and lime grouting. The early English upper part of the tower was expected to be safely carried on this weird admixture; and, strange to say, the expectation was realised. But the crushing weight in the course of time split the columns and bulged the walls; and so, at some period not specified, the original ashlar was cut out and long flat strips of stone carried round and bound with iron. And so the tower stood, but not without further rending and the bonds and crushing of stone. Cottingham's remarks upon what he discovered bear witness to his dismay. "On the whole," he said, "I never witnessed



SOUTH PORCH, CRANBROOK CHURCH.

a more awful monument of the fallibility of human skill than the tower of Hereford Cathedral at this moment presents."

A very beautiful use of the flying-buttresses as an integral part of a design is seen at Lincoln, in the structure of the Chapter House of the Minster. This Chapter House, a work dating from the early part of the thirteenth century, forms a decagon. The interior discloses a vaulted roof, supported on a central column, while the exterior displays a series of eight flying-buttresses, springing from heavy piers; the whole forming a design combining the nicest perception of counteracting strainer and of the proportions that make for beauty.

No one ever contemplated adding buttresses or strainers to support the beautiful and lofty central tower of Lincoln Minster, almost the loftiest cathedral tower in England, and almost, if not indeed the most, beautiful. It is a matter of individual taste whether this tower, or the much later central tower of Gloucester, is the finest. Perhaps if this central tower of Lincoln had been buttressed as is that of Gloucester, there would not now be the necessity for the extensive repairs which are now being carried out at the cost of many thousands of pounds. This tower has developed an alarming crack from top to bottom. This fissure is being repaired with liquid grouting, forced in after the manner now being employed at St. Paul's Cathedral. A similar, but perhaps not so extensive, crack has occurred in the north-western tower.

We have seen thus far examples of extraordinary risks taken by the old craftsmen. Look, however, at this illustration of the south porch of Cranbrook Church, in Kent.

One of the most astonishing things about this ornate structure—nay, the most astonishing—is the great and furiously-ugly masonry strut, which would be called a “shore” if only it were in timber, that at a considerable height props up the beautiful tower. Hardly could we find a greater contrast between a severe and gaunt sim-



FLYING BUTTRESS, ST. SAMPSON, CRICKLADE.

plicity and profuse ornateness than is exhibited here between that hideous buttress and the lofty and much-panelled tower. This prop is so frankly unlovely that even to style it a “buttress” seems to disparage the exquisite adornments that buttresses at their best are easily capable of being. This great crutch for a noble tower in danger of falling so soon as it was built, five hun-



THE GREAT BUTTRESS, CIRENCESTER CHURCH.

dred years ago, is however justified of its ugly existence, for the lofty belfry yet stands securely. The ingenious way in which this supporting masonry is built, diagonally, through the west wall of the south aisle, down to the foundations, compels an admiration for the construction which the design cannot call forth.

Two very beautiful strainer-arches are to be found in Northamptonshire: at the neighbouring churches of Finedon and Rushden. At both of these churches there appeared in the fourteenth century a danger of the lofty clerestory walls at the eastern end of the nave falling inwards, and accordingly the very fine and ornate strainer-arches we see in both of these structures were added. They



STRAINER ARCH, FINEDON CHURCH.

are exceptionally decorative and elaborate, and are very distinctly an addition to the architectural beauties of either church. They clearly are both by the same hand, as the feature of the little angels from which the arch springs sufficiently shows, even if the similarity of thought in each design did not at once inform us. If we are to make a choice between the two, that of Rushden is certainly by a little way the better. There is a very charming flamboyant feeling in the tracery of the two circles of the spandrels in this example. Altogether, it is a little surprising to find that, while the not beautiful feature of the strainer-buttress at Dorchester, already mentioned, has freely been copied in modern practice, these two very fine strainer-arches at Finedon and Rushden have not been taken as hints in design.

There is no nobler tower than the central tower of Gloucester Cathedral, partly built by Abbot Seabroke, 1450-1457, and completed after his death. It rises, a monument of grace, to a height of 220 ft., and bears some resemblance to the Victoria Tower of the Houses of Parliament, although that tower is loftier and larger on ground-plan, and rises sheerly its whole height without buttress or even the slightest break. The central tower of Gloucester Cathedral stands upon piers that are partly of Abbot Serlo's work of 1072-1103, and it would seem to be the third tower to be built. Like so many another such tower, it has required, or has seemed to require, the support of flying-buttresses. The most remarkable of these is the great diagonal buttress or strainer which, starting from the sill



CHAPTER-HOUSE, LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.

It is an early fourteenth-century work, placed upon a site where no subsidence was to be feared; and the porch, even though it has a parvise-chamber over, is not lofty. It is, too, extraordinarily substantial, and surely did not need the support of the extremely heavy angle-buttresses. It may be suggested that the provision of these buttresses was just conventional, and nothing else. Historically, the porch is interesting, for the chamber above was used by the local magistrate, Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst, in the sixteenth century, as a prison for the religious fanatics calling themselves "Anabaptists." The porch is therefore still known in Cranbrook as "Bloody Baker's Prison."

Flying-buttresses figure to some extent in modern practice, alike in new work and as supports for old, where it has settled or has seemed to be in danger of settlement. The very large and imposing church of St. Philip Neri at Arundel, built 1869-76 for the Duke of Norfolk at a cost of over £100,000, is in a French Gothic style closely corre-

sponding to our "Decorated" period. It has flying-buttresses with a flat limb not at all in keeping with the best Gothic traditions, and rather resembling a gantry.

When the exterior of Westminster Hall was dealt with and added to by J. L. Pearson, after the demolition of the old Law Courts, when law and equity, made one, were removed to the "Royal Palace of Justice" in the Strand, the architect provided a series of flying-buttresses to counteract the great thrust of the immense roof; and more recently, in course of the extensive works at Winchester Cathedral, a series of flying-buttresses of extremely heavy character has been added to the south side of the nave.

A very striking series of some sixteen flying-buttresses is a prominent feature of the modern, and as yet incomplete, church of St. Alban, Teddington (W. Niven, architect), built about 1887-1890; and a very forest of such buttresses supports the great bulk of Lancing College chapel, between Brighton and Worthing.

Art Galleries and Exhibitions.

Mons. L. Pilichowski at St. John's Wood.

Recently we visited the studio of this artist to inspect the results of a tour of Palestine—a country which is just now very much in the mind of the public. It is almost inevitable that in dealing with the Land of Promise, one should expect that a considerable section of the exhibited works should be of a religious or semi-religious cast. But this is far from being the case in the present instance, for though Bible sentiments are often given as texts to the canvasses, yet for the most part the subjects are no more religious than Paddington railway station.

The best section of the work is the collection of portraits for the picture representing the opening of the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus. Some of these are certainly good portraiture, but few, if any, possess pictorial qualities—a point of no great importance, perhaps, in regard to mere studies. The portrait of the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire is a speaking likeness, the study of Sir Herbert Samuel is beyond description poor, nor is that of his wife at all pleasing. There is a striking flower piece (No. 61) called "Fire Lilies." The artist possesses a vigorous handling of his medium, and this is strikingly evident in No. 15, "Chalutzim." Others we approve are Nos. 4, 12, 17, 24, 35, 36 (this is one of the portraits), 62, 65, 70 and 91. Too often, the flesh tints are dirty and there is a tendency—more than a tendency—to slap on the paint in a distressing fashion. Many of the works are in pastel.

The One Guinea Print Exhibition in Cork Street.

Messrs. Harold W. Bromhead, Ltd., of 18, Cork Street, W., conceived the idea of organising an exhibit of prints, where the invariable charge of one guinea should rule as the purchase price for each exhibit; and there are many of the latter, which might well attract (as they are attracting) the members of the public, who are on the search for suitable presents to their friends. But with that aspect we are, after all, not greatly concerned, being more interested in the artistic value of the works shown on the walls.

For the most part, the etchings and colour prints, which make up the collection, are the work of young and generally unknown artists; but there is sufficient evidence that many of the executants, given life and opportunity, will issue successfully from the ranks of the undistinguished and take place with those who have already made their reputation.

In the first place, it may be said, that the etchings appeal to us far more than the colour prints, but something must, of course, be allowed on this score for personal predilection. One of the artists deserving of appreciative notice is Mr. R. F. King, for the delicacy and general charm of treatment; mention might be made of the following works by him, as selections: "Rothsay," "Friar's Craig, Derwentwater," "Kilchurn Castle" and "Loch Katrine." Equal merit in a different method of handling attaches to the work of Mr. H. E. Bonsey, whose etchings of "Pump Court" and "Fountain Court" in the Temple contain

all the elements for the production of truly artistic work. From the contributions of Mr. Claude Rowbotham may be selected for notice the following: "The Path of Gold" (one of the few colour prints which held any appeal) and his etching of "Stonehenge," which, though good in execution, gives a very unrealistic presentation of this famous temple (for such it may be designated); his colour prints of "Exeter Cathedral" and "Moll's Coffee House, Exeter," are rather clumsily drawn and finicking.

In Mr. Louis Whirter we meet one of the few exceptions to inclusion amongst the particularly young or unknown artists; one work by him deserves special notice for its striking handling, and that is "John Knox's House, Edinburgh." Many of the prints are lacking in the valuable quality of atmosphere, but a pleasant exception to this reproach is noticeable in one of Mr. Bertram Buchanan's etchings, "Bates' Farm," where good effect is obtained from simple material; it contrasts favourably with the same artist's "Rye, from the Hill" and "Chanctonbury Ring." Atmosphere is well in evidence in Mr. E. Popple's "The Passing Storm," but is decidedly lacking in Mr. S. L. Scott's "Tower of London" and "Gate of Honour, Cambridge." Mr. Cyril Power's etching showing the interior central view of the church of the Holy Sepulchre, Cambridge, is a clever piece of draughtsmanship, and is forceful; great praise attaches also to his "High Street Gate, Salisbury." Miss Dorothy Sweet has some good work, from which may be selected for mention "Old Gateway, Ipswich," for its successful chiaroscuro. Very delicate and suggestive in treatment, with a touch of good quality, is Mr. James Master's "Wardour Castle (an old stairway)"; and with a passing word of hearty appreciation of Mr. Allen Seaby's "Fox and Crow" for its decorative value, this notice (all too short to do adequate justice to the merits of the exhibition) must be brought to a close.

Book Notices.

L'Architecture des Pays-Bas Meridion-aux (Belgique et Nord de la France) aux XVI, XVII et XVIIIe Siècles, 11½ by 9 in. Prof. Paul Parent. (G. Van Oest, Editeur, Paris.)

Professor Parent's book is welcome, particularly so as it deals with a subject on which we have so little material. There is a great tendency nowadays for publishers to dish up and issue books on set subjects (as, say, the Italian Renaissance) in every form and aspect, the information continuously duplicated and the same places illustrated again and again.

The book deals with the architecture (ecclesiastical and domestic) of the "Pays-Bas" from the 16th to the 18th century. As in other cases, politics has played its part in the formation of style; there is a distinct trace of Spanish influence introduced into Flanders by the Spanish King, Charles V (1500-1555), in the same way as the Flemish influence was introduced into England.

The success of the Reformation (1534) compromised political and commercial relationship between England and Italy. This disagreement was seized upon and turned to great advantage by the Flemish bankers and merchants, who soon became masters of the English market. Furthermore, with the Revolt of Ghent (1539) there was a general influx of Flemish workmen with their art and customs, and their influence in time became felt in the architecture of England.

It played its part mainly in the details of plastic ornament, as in the decoration of the large chimney pieces in the halls (Knole House, 1605; Bolsover Castle, 1613), in the huge bay-windows (Hardwick Hall, 1576; Rushton Hall, 1595-1630), the porches and doorways (Longford Castle, 1580; Vroxtton Abbey, 1618; Audley End, 1603-1616), and in the gables, etc.

Flemish architecture, as a whole, does not appeal to English taste, and it is rather a pity that Professor Parent has given us rather too many illustrations of general exteriors (on the small size) and much too few illustrations of details.

The photographic reproductions are good, the draughtsmanship in the drawings is too slight. The text is good and most scholarly, though we would suggest that there is too much of it. On making a comparison we find that there are four pages of text to each plate; four plates to each page of text would have been more useful.

Collection de l'Art Régional en France. René Darde: "L'Habitation Provençale." Prof. Louis Colas: "L'Habitation Basque." Portfolio. (Massin, Editeurs, Paris.)

We congratulate the French publishers for a most practical series of books dealing with the architecture, art and furniture of the different provinces of France.

Mr. Darde's book is a monograph of his own work in Provence. Simplicity of form and lack of ornament appear to be his fundamentals, and one or two points may be gained by the contemplation of his work.

Unfortunately, as it is all stucco work, it is hardly applicable in England, though ideas can always be adapted. His simplicity of form and lack of ornament is well expressed in a house erected at Saint Maxime.

The climate of England being so different from that of the Riviera, and Mr. Darde's work being so essentially Provençale, the book will hardly appeal to English architects unless they are interested in the styles of a more Southern land.

His work is fresh, modern in taste, and his very simplicity keeps it in good taste. The book is well illustrated and plans are given of every house. An interesting descriptive preface is contributed by Mr. Henri Algoud.

Professor Colas' book on "L'Habitation Basque" is a survey of recent work in the south-west of France. It is mainly stucco work, generally lined with half timber. The work reproduced seems to us to be of poor quality, and with the exception of a house by Mr. Siclis, at Bidart, there is nothing of interest.

The book is well produced in its form and the illustrations are well reproduced, but the material illustrated could have been better selected, for we feel sure that better work than this is being done in the "Basque province," particularly round Biarritz.

Waterloo Bridge Again.

It seems probable that the vexed question of Waterloo Bridge and the feasibility of underpinning it will be settled in the only possible way by making further investigations and deciding the question on the outcome of those investigations.

The Improvements Committee have submitted the following recommendations:

(a) That the Council take steps to secure by underpinning the permanent maintenance for traffic of Waterloo Bridge, provided that the claims of the Conference of Societies as to the practicability, safety, and economy of such a method can be established;

(b) That the First Commissioner of Works be asked whether the Government would be prepared to set up a technical Commission of inquiry to determine whether the Council could safely undertake the underpinning of the bridge so as to preserve it in perpetuity in a condition fit to take the traffic which may be expected to make use of it, and if the answer to that question be in the affirmative, what method of underpinning should be adopted, and what would be the probable cost.

We have no doubt that the Council as a whole will endorse this moderate and reasonable proposal, in spite of the "hot heads" who urge it to defy public opinion and "get on with the work" of demolition.

Since we wrote this the London County Council have decided by a large majority to demolish Waterloo Bridge and build a new one with five arches to carry six lines of traffic. We are much surprised at this decision, which will not tend to make the L.C.C. popular, as evidence seems to indicate that expert opinion is sharply divided as to the feasibility of underpinning, while public opinion is undoubtedly in favour of the retention of our first bridge if it can be effected.

R.I.B.A. Meeting.**The Condition of the Building Industry. With Especial Regard to the Shortage of Skilled Labour and the Increased Cost of Building Work.****By Herbert A. Welch, F.R.I.B.A.**

On one previous occasion only I think—at least during recent years—has the Council of this Institute considered it opportune that its members and other parties interested should, within these walls, be given an opportunity to focus their attention upon a matter having for its purpose a general survey of the condition of the building industry, with a view to determine whether the existing difficulties with which the industry is beset can be overcome to the lasting satisfaction of all concerned.

From my investigation, I have formed the opinion that the chronic troubles from which the industry has suffered during recent years are not so much due to particular incidents or disputes, to special points of difference between the parties regarding what might at such times appear to be the cause for such disputes, as to the fact that there is underlying these disputes a deeply rooted feeling (frequently shared by both masters and men) that hardships and grievances are permitted to continue because no sufficient attempt has been made in the past to tackle fundamental conditions. On this account many of the so-called settlements of past disputes have in effect been merely a postponement of the matter until such time as one side or the other considered the occasion most favourable to its cause. The result has been that for a long time "feeling"—active or latent—has manifested itself within the industry. In such cases delay has not healed the wound, but, on the contrary, caused it to fester with a tendency to become poisonous.

This question of "a new spirit in industry" is not a new one—indeed, it is very old—but it claims attention on new ground. It is a question of business, not of sentiment. It has been forced to the front by the economic situation of the country, especially in regard to foreign competition and export trade, which has compelled a general recognition of the need of more efficient—that is, economically efficient—production, and of industrial peace as an indispensable condition for securing it. Probably no one will deny that economic recovery is dependent on those conditions; but at that point opinions begin to diverge, and they separate, as usual, into two extremes with a middle section between them. On what we may call the extreme right there are employers of the old school who hold that if only trade unionism is kept in its place and they are allowed to run their businesses as they please, all will be well. On the extreme left are those who call the present economic situation the breakdown or collapse of Capitalism, and maintain that nothing less than a complete transformation of the existing order will be of any avail. The policy of the first, if effectively carried out, involves turning back the course of social evolution and reverting to a past order, which is no more possible to-day than the restoration of the feudal system. The policy of the other offers no real remedy. The theory that public ownership and control would inevitably secure the superior economic efficiency that we need is supported by no material or convincing evidence.

There remains the middle course, which is, in effect, the one that at similar times of reconstruction has generally been followed at least in this country—namely, the gradual modification of existing conditions by ameliorative measures. But it is evident that this policy, as hitherto pursued, will not suffice. Something more is needed to promote that effective co-operation of the factors engaged in production which is seen to be necessary. The cry for a new spirit in industry is a recognition of this truth. Such a spirit is a necessary preliminary because it supplies the motive power of action, and without a change of spirit there can be no real change of form; but it must take a concrete shape to be effective. What shape? That is the practical question. There can be no uniform plan, but there is a uniform principle, which is perhaps expressed by the word "collaboration" as well as by any other.

This is an essential condition of all good work done by men in concert. To produce the best result there must be the will to work together for it, and that is not secured by the pressure of circumstances or coercion by authority, but by a common feeling and a common interest. The common feeling depends on the human relationship; the common interest on the economic principle. It cannot be maintained that either has been satisfactory in the past or is at all generally satisfactory now; and this is the reason for what in another industry—as recently as 1919—was called the "psychology of low production." It is a question of motive in industry. A solution of all the other difficulties would be no solution for this one.

The motive is the heart of the problem. For the best work there must be an adequate motive, and it will not be forthcoming without a change both in the human and in the economic relationship. The first concerns personal treatment. Authority and discipline there must be in all concerted operations; but they can be exercised in different ways, as they actually are in different establishments. In some there is incessant trouble, in others none at all. In the former case employers put it all down to agitation (and sometimes that is a principal cause), but more often it is due to someone wielding authority and exercising it in a harsh manner. To be effective the change of attitude must be generally recognised and observed. With regard to the economic relationship, what is needed is such an interest in the prosperity of the business as will induce all those engaged in it to do their best, or at least such a direct reward for effort as will elicit the best. A combination of the two is the most complete solution of the problem. It is in this direction that American industry has taken so marked a lead. Effort is encouraged and interest in the common prosperity secured by commensurate reward.

THE GENERAL ORGANISATION FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE INDUSTRY.

It has become the custom—by accident, I think, rather than by design—for representatives of the employers and employees alone to deal with matters concerning the more practical and material side of the industry, probably because they represent the parties most directly concerned. So long as the machinery thereby set up has functioned for the general well-being of the industry, it might be reasoned that he was a meddling busybody who would venture to introduce changes from the outside. It is a generally accepted axiom that onlookers see most of the game. Were we architects but mere onlookers I venture to think that from that standpoint alone a good and sufficient reason could be stated for our venturing an expression of view as to how best the game might be played. We are, however, not mere onlookers, but active participants in all the good and ill which befalls the industry. Yet how little we know about the causes and effects of certain fundamental conditions, the reasons why disputes arise, tending to acute feeling and sometimes ending in strikes; which, in turn, are settled upon terms of which we know not until at breakfast or in the train we scan our morning newspaper!

To give and to receive the fullest measure of benefit the industry as a whole should be happy and contented, the crafts sound and skilful; production should be smooth, steady and economic.

Can we architects play any useful part in creating such conditions? In the past attempts have been made to this end. These attempts, however, have failed to achieve any great measure of success.

Trying to forget the past, is the time ripe to make a further and this time a successful effort to get together and pull together in an attempt to improve conditions and remove evils which are known to exist?

As a prelude to our own efforts let us consider in passing

what has been the result elsewhere of certain experiments along the lines I have in mind.

Mr. Robert D. Kohn, Chairman of the Committee on Industrial Relations, American Institute of Architects, in a letter to the "Architectural Association Journal" under date June 19, 1925, regarding a report of the Architectural Association's general meeting on April 27 this year, writes as follows:—

"The report of your meeting and the discussion thereon by members of your Association seem to indicate that the situation in England with regard to the relations between architect, building labour, and the builder, do not vary greatly from those that pertain in the United States. Here, too, we have until recent years had a series of disagreements between the building crafts workers and their employers, the causes of which were unknown to the architects or ignored by them, and indeed it appeared as if neither party to these controversies wished to recognise the interests of anyone else in either the cause or the result of their quarrel. Sometimes when the situation became serious either labour or the employers would call upon the public to support their just (?) contentions, but as a general rule the disagreements were fought out privately, and sometimes the public interest was totally ignored or sacrificed in the terms of the final settlement.

"In the last few years we have made a beginning towards a change in this procedure. Reference is made in your report to the appearance of Mr. Malcolm Sparks on one occasion before your organisation. We are glad to acknowledge our indebtedness to Mr. Sparks, for the plan of co-operation between the various elements of the building industry upon which we have embarked in the United States was primarily inspired by his efforts to organise the Parliament of the Building Industry in England during the war. As far as I can discover, his war-time effort has left no permanent organisation of similar character in England. It inspired a movement, however, in this country which is carrying on with great success.

"I refer by this to the 'Congress of the Building Industry,' which was started in 1920 in a preliminary way in this country, and which in the last three years has developed into a group of local organisations in half-a-dozen of our more populous communities: New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Portland (Oregon), Seattle and the State of New Jersey. Each of these organisations includes within its membership what we may call the technique of the industry (the architects and the engineers), the labour of all the crafts of the industry, the builders (here called general contractors), the sub-contractors, the building material manufacturers or producers; the building material distributors, and, finally, the representatives of finance principally interested in building loans.

"We are, therefore, gradually developing here through these local organisations a medium of co-operation between the various elements that jointly render a certain service to the public, and this co-operation enables each different function within the building process better to understand all the other functions within the process. Already each of these local groups has developed a system of apprenticeship training in the building crafts. This enlistment into and training for the industry is one of our most important problems as it is with you. Time and again in different places efforts have been made to start systems of apprenticeship training through either the joint efforts of the labour organisations and employers or by these two groups with the co-operation of the local education boards. Frequently these efforts have failed. Since the Congress of the Building Industry has been formed renewed efforts have been undertaken under the guidance of the architects and with the co-operation of the other elements previously mentioned as being part of these groups (and with the local education boards).

"Just as an illustration of the results attained in three brief years of work I may cite that in New York City alone the number of apprentices being trained in various crafts has increased from a few hundred to two or three thousand. Here, too, there are restrictions by unions upon the number of apprentices to be introduced into any craft, but the neutral investigations conducted by our

'Congress' groups have shown that, as with you, there were in no trade as many apprentices being trained by the employers as were permitted by the union rules. Nor have we yet, even with our large increase above recorded, reached the maximum permitted by the unions. Time enough to discuss these rules when this limit has been reached. Indeed, it is only fair to say that we frequently find a more ready response from labour in the matter of starting apprenticeship training than we get from the employers.

"Apprenticeship training is only one of the many educational efforts undertaken by the Congress groups, educational in the sense that they educate the participants in the efforts rather more than those ostensibly to be benefited. Seasonal unemployment; unfair practices on the part of builders or of labour; inadequate performance on the part of the architects; industry codes of ethics; surveys of likely shortages of materials or labour, are all topics that engage various Congress committees in the different cities.

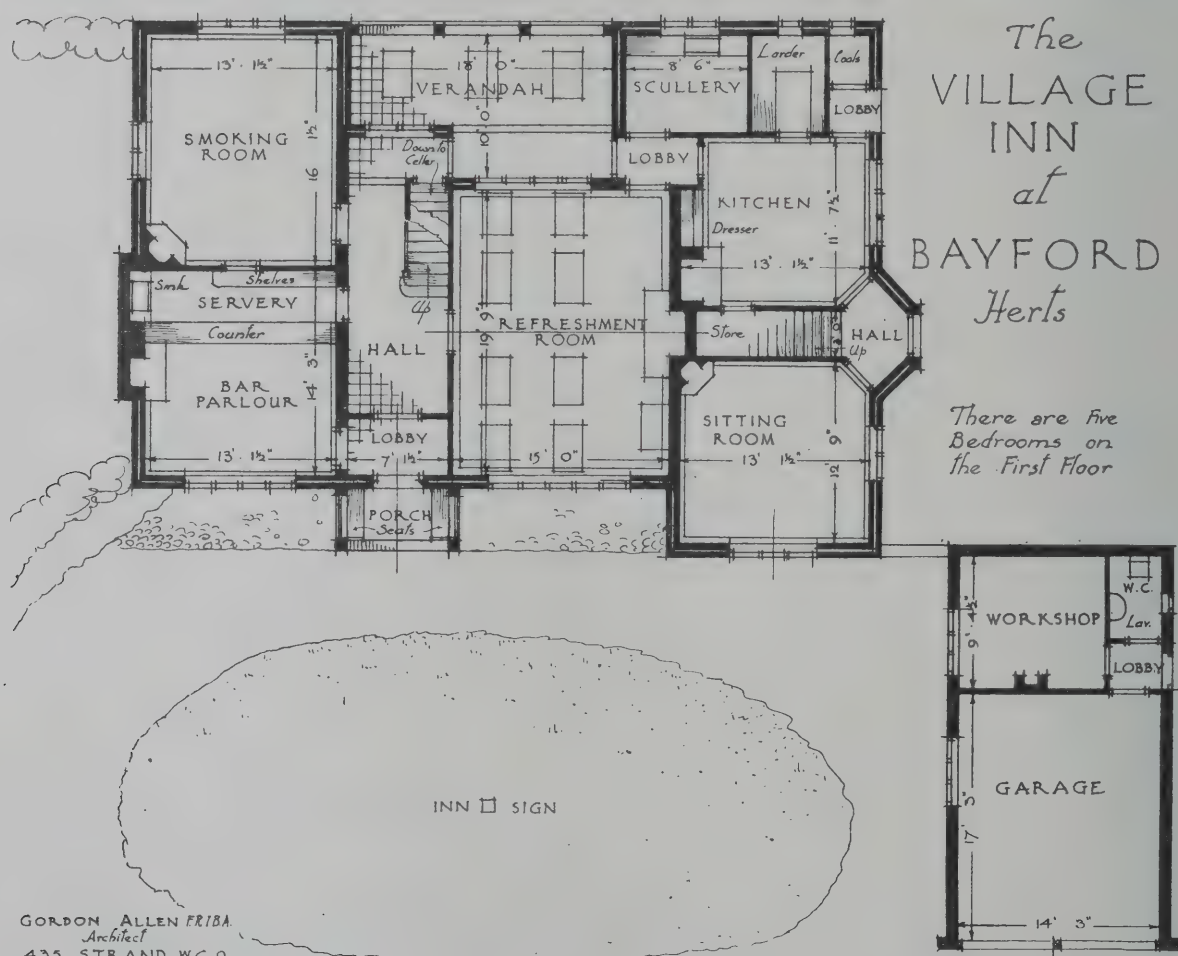
"I hesitate somewhat to impose upon your time this statement of an experiment which is after all only in its beginnings. By doing so can only be justified by two facts. One is that after all the inspiration for this move came from one of your own war-time experiments, and the other is that the results of our three or four years' effort have already proven that this scheme of building industry organisation in which the architects have taken a hand has produced what we may call a by-product even more important than apprenticeship training, the doing away with seasonal unemployment and the correction of unfair practices within the building industry. This more important thing which has been accomplished, and which is recognised by hundreds of architect members of these Congress groups, is that the work done jointly on these various committees by architect, engineers, labour men, building trades employers and others interested in building work has established between the individuals thus working together an understanding of and a sympathy with each other's problems, of the functioning of the industry as a whole and of the relation of any one part to the whole, which unquestionably will result in a willingness to be more reasonable when those difficulties arise. This realisation of a common purpose is in itself the most important thing that we think we have accomplished. It is the recognition of the fact that the architect needs this kind of education as much as anyone else that has caused the American Institute of Architects to instruct the committee of which I happen to be chairman to encourage its members to invite the co-operation of others in the building industry to help in the formation of 'Congress' groups, such as I have described, in every part of the country."

I cannot help feeling that if possessed of "the will to win," a similar body set up in this country could and would do much excellent work. I further feel that unless some such body is created, and *can be made to work in the right spirit*, we must be prepared to face in the future continued trouble and controversy.

[To be continued.]

The Ironmonger's Pocket Book.

This is a most useful and comprehensive little publication, arranged with great care and very clearly printed. It is published by "The Ironmonger," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., and sold for 1s. It contains 62 close printed pages filled with tables giving sizes, weights and thicknesses of various bars, beams, plates, etc., data about tin plates, wire netting, bolts, nuts, and screws, metal plates, copper tubes, lead sheets and pipes, gas, water and steam pipes, steel conduits, rain water pipes and gutters, tanks and a large number of other matters. After looking through it we are inclined to say that, once used, it will be regarded as being indispensable because it can be readily carried about in the pocket, while it contains data which are constantly needed and though contained in many large works cannot then be consulted with convenience. "The Ironmonger" has both deserved and maintained a very high position among trade publications and all it does is marked by a painstaking thoroughness which the trade it serves holds in high esteem.



The Village Inn at Bayford, Hertfordshire

The surroundings to this inn are completely rural, Bayford being as yet quite unspoilt by the expansion of London.

A feature has been made of the refreshment room, as it is felt that this department will become increasingly important in the future. There are also a smoking room (which might be used as a club room), an open-air room for summer use, and the usual bar parlour. The inn-keeper's sitting room is well cut off from the public

rooms, but there is easy access from the kitchen and scullery.

On the first floor there are five bedrooms, three of which are for guests, and two bathrooms.

The inn is set back from the road, with a green in front and a garage and workshop to one side. It will be built of brickwork with a cavity, the roof being of plain tiles, and the window frames of oak, with steel casements and leaded lights. Mr. Gordon Allen, F.R.I.B.A., of 435 Strand, is the architect.

Law Reports.

The effect of an unfortunate accident to an architect, that reduced by one-half his capacity to use his right hand, upon his future professional prospects was discussed in the King's Bench Division on Monday (December 14), when the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury heard an action by Mr. George Wm. Irvine (aged 56), architect, of Cashmere Avenue, Leamington Spa.

The defendant was Mrs. Isabella Chisholm, late proprietress of the Porchester Hotel, Lancaster Gate, W., who was sued for damages for injuries Mr. Irvine received in the hotel. The defence was a denial of negligence and a plea of contributory negligence by Mr. Irvine.

Appearing for Mr. Irvine, Mr. Thorn Drury, K.C., said in September, 1924, Mr. Irvine was being shown to a bedroom in the hotel. A waiter drew open the iron door to the lift shaft, and thinking the lift was ready on that floor, Mr. Irvine stepped forward and fell into the lift shaft. Fortunately, the well of the lift was not deep; but, in falling and endeavouring to save himself, Mr. Irvine pushed his hands through a glass window in the shaft and cut the tendons and an artery of his right wrist. The result was that Mr. Irvine's professional capacities had been considerably lessened, and the damage he suffered was admittedly great.

In the witness box Mr. Irvine said he stepped forward unhesitatingly to enter what he thought was the lift when the iron door was opened. The lighting of the place was very dim. He was engaged by the Ministry of Health, and was expecting to have to find another post in a few months' time. The use of his right hand had been reduced by 50 per cent., because he could not close the hand, and could only just sign his name. Sketching and drawing—and he was a draughtsman—was now out of the question with that hand.

The Lord Chief Justice: Have you tried drawing and writing with the left hand?—Yes. I can use instruments only to a limited extent, though, with that hand.

What is the difference between a great architect and one in the common rut?—I suppose the difference is the genius for putting his ideas into execution.

The great thing is ideas?—Yes.

And if you have ideas you can get somebody else to put them on paper?—Yes. It is an expensive job to a man commencing business on his own account.

Replying to Mr. Herbert Samuels (for Mrs. Chisholme), Mr. Irvine denied that he pushed past the waiter to enter what looked like the lift door without taking care to see where he was going.

Sir John Burnet, the well-known architect, said he understood Mr. Irvine earned £600 a year at the Ministry of Health, but now he would find it difficult to get employment as an assistant to an architect or as a draughtsman. His handicap was great, and if he started on his own account he would have to pay an assistant £500 a year to do his drawings and sketches for him.

Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, architect, said it would be a great speculation for plaintiff, at the age of 56 years, to start in practice for himself with his hand so injured. He was gravely handicapped, because he could not sketch easily and perform the more delicate normal movements of his right hand.

Mr. Raymond Unwin, F.I.B.A., of the Ministry of Health, said the staff of architects employed by the Ministry was gradually being reduced, and Mr. Irvine could not expect to keep his position after a few months' time. He would then have to seek other employment.

For the defence, Mr. Samuels said Mrs. Chisholme was sorry for Mr. Irvine, but her case was that he had himself to blame for the accident, because he deliberately walked through the door of the shaft without looking to see whether the lift was in its place or not, and did so in broad daylight.

The jury found in favour of the defendant, for whom judgment was entered with costs.

The Courtrai-du Nord Tile Co. Ltd. v. James Dennis, Ltd.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on December 15, 1925, Mr. Justice Astbury had before him a motion by Courtrai-du Nord Tile Co., Ltd., for an injunction restraining James Dennis, Ltd., from using the words "Courtrai du Nord" as descriptive of or in connection with any tiles manufactured by them or any tiles (not being supplied by Courtrai-du Nord Tile Co., Ltd.) sold or offered or advertised for sale by them without clearly distinguishing such tiles from the tiles sold by Courtrai-du Nord Tile Co., Ltd., and generally from passing off or enabling others to pass off any tiles not sold by

Courtrai-du Nord Tile Co., Ltd., as or for tiles sold by Courtrai-du Nord Tile Co., Ltd.

Mr. W. M. Hunt, for the plaintiffs, said it had been agreed to treat the motion as the trial of the action, and his Lordship made an order for a perpetual injunction against the defendants and costs accordingly.

Abbey Langthorne Memorial.

In the presence of a large assembly on Friday afternoon, December 11th last, the War Memorial erected at Messrs. R. Ingham Clark & Co.'s works at West Ham Abbey was unveiled by Major-General James D. McLachlan, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. The memorial, which is in the form of a capped pillar in stone, was erected by the Abbey Langthorne Comrades of the Great War—the firm's Old Comrade's Association—and was subscribed to by members of the allied houses of Ingham Clark, R. Gay & Co., Ltd., and Mitcham Japan and Varnish Co., Ltd. It bears the names of twelve men who fell in action.

Mr. F. W. Fell Clark presided, supported by General McLachlan, the Mayor of West Ham (Ald. J. T. Husband, J.P.), Mr. Thomas Groves, M.P., Major R. H. Ingham Clark, and others.

In introducing the General, Mr. Fell Clark referred to his distinguished war record, and said they were delighted to have so gallant an officer to perform the ceremony of unveiling.

General McLachlan said it was a very great pleasure to him to come to those works. He was glad, too, to see Major Ingham Clark. He was an officer in one of the Highland Regiments and proved himself a gallant soldier. It gave him very great pleasure to add his testimony to the zeal and devotion displayed during the war by that firm. The memorial they were unveiling that day gave a good example of that comradeship and self-sacrifice. It was that spirit which led to the erection of that memorial. He unveiled the memorial "in honour and ever grateful remembrance of the men of these works who gave their lives for their country in the Great War, 1914-19."

The Last Post was sounded by buglers of the 6th Battalion Essex Regiment, whilst the assembly stood at attention.

The Rev. L. Elliott Binns, B.D., F.R.Hist.S., M.C. (Vicar of West Ham), then dedicated the memorial and afterwards addressed the company. There were events which, at the time of their occurrence, were very terrible, but as the years rolled by they slipped easily away and only a chance happening brought them to mind again with any vividness. Impressions became worn out, so they had these memorials to keep green the memory of those who did great deeds; to remind themselves of the great deeds of those who fell and—let them not forget this—of those who were still with them. Those who fought and those who died did not fight for the sake of fighting. Sometimes ignorant people denounced soldiers. They forgot that their desire was not to kill others, but that they were willing to forfeit their lives for the honour of their country. That was why the profession of a soldier had always been honoured.

On behalf of the Old Comrades' Association, Major Clark cordially thanked General McLachlan and Vicar for the part they had taken in the unveiling ceremony. The idea of the Association was conceived about 18 months ago, when some of them felt that the spirit of comradeship and goodwill which was brought about by the common danger during the war, was perhaps being slightly forgotten. Some of the boys who left there in 1914 to go to their different stations of war, came back feeling that they must try and revive the spirit of good fellowship and good feeling. They, therefore, formed that Old Comrades' Association. Within a week they had over 50 members and now had 85, or 65 per cent. of the male staff at West Ham. In thanking the General, Major Clark said he had the great pleasure of serving under his command during the war. He was a gallant soldier, beloved of every man whom he commanded. That day they were perpetuating the memory of their fallen comrades. He wanted them always to remember that there were other comrades who returned, some able to work but unable to find employment, others unable to work on account of disablement and now, in many cases, in dire poverty and distress. They were nearing Christmas, and he asked them to think of those who were their friends during the war, and to buy their Christmas presents through those organisations which helped disabled soldiers to earn a living. Perhaps they could send a little subscription to St. Dunstan's, or some similar organisation, which helped to put these men on their feet.

The Mayor of West Ham said he agreed with all the sentiments that had been uttered. One of the blessings of the war was that it inculcated a spirit of comradeship and good feeling, and he hoped all who had taken part in that ceremony would bear in mind everything that Major Clark had said. He (the Mayor) had worked side by side with the soldier in the barrack room and knew the spirit of comradeship that animated him.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

DECEMBER 18, 1775.
ST. ALBANS ABBEY.

Sir E. Beckett, in a letter to the *Times*, says:—Sir Gilbert Scott's estimate of the sum required to prevent the south side of the nave from falling is no less than 30,000*l*. The reasons for it being so much are—First, its great size; secondly, its dangerous condition, the upper part of it being absolutely ruinous already, and stones continually falling on the aisle roof; and, thirdly, the fact that, the wall being far from perpendicular, the roof of the nave and the vaulting of the aisle must evidently all be done at once, together with the requisite buttressing to keep it safe afterwards.

A few years ago the great tower was taken in hand, and the piers in a great measure rebuilt, only just in time to save it from falling like Chichester, and it is now in a condition to stand as long again as it has done already—viz., from Norman times. Other necessary and substantial repairs have been done gradually, and in a short time all the central part of the church will again be ready to be used for service, with temporary fittings, leaving the nave free for the repairs so urgently needed there.

The cause of my taking up the matter was an examination of the building a few months ago, with the very able clerk of the works, Mr. Chapple, who managed a similar though smaller repair of Boxgrove Abbey Church, under Sir G. Scott, for the Duke of Richmond a few years ago. I was so alarmed at the state of the walls and roof that I undertook the cost of shoring them up at once, without even waiting for Sir G. Scott's return from Scotland. When he did return he concurred in the opinion that it had not been begun a bit too soon. The shoring will be equally wanted to keep the walls up during the repairs, though it is, of course, only a temporary measure, and will not stop the decay which is going on.

Although the sum required is large, and the work must obviously be undertaken as a whole, it is much less than has been spent on many other cathedrals and churches of less magnitude, antiquity, and architectural value. And I should add, for the information of those who do not know it, that the part now in danger is by far the finest part of the building, though not the oldest. Probably also few people are aware that this is the longest nave and the longest church in the world, except St. Peter's at Rome.

I am glad to hear that several other persons, whose names are not yet published, have promised similar subscriptions to mine, without yet going into Essex, which with Hertfordshire will form the new diocese. Without a wide basis of such subscriptions the restoration committee, of which Lord Verulam is chairman, cannot move or hope to get the requisite sum to enable them to make a proper contract—a matter which will require unusual care from the peculiar nature of the work; and therefore I add that any subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. H. J. Toulmin, of the Pré, St. Albans, our honorary secretary. Large subscriptions may be spread over three years, but, I am afraid, no longer, as this work must go on quickly when it is begun.

Calendars.

The "Grinnell" automatic sprinkler and fire alarm has well established itself wherever the reduction of fire loss is of importance. We are pleased to receive from Messrs. Mather & Platt, Ltd., Park Works, Manchester, an attractive calendar. Standing 14 inches high, it takes the form of the "Grinnell" trade mark—"the fireman in the sprinkler"—with the legend, "A Fireman Always on the Spot." A tear-off daily calendar pad in bold figures completes its usefulness. The calendar is made either to stand on the desk or to hang in the office. We understand that persons interested in fire protection may have one of these calendars on writing to Park Works, Manchester, or to Park House, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1.

"Under a Dickens Rooftree."

The interest in Dickens House at 48, Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, is of a worldwide nature. Many visitors from America, the British Dominions and Colonies constantly arrive at the premises to inspect the treasures, which are closely bound up in the great author's life and works. The rooms have been so arranged as to represent in the closest way their appearance during the occupation of Charles Dickens. We have received from Messrs. Radiation, Ltd., on behalf of Messrs. John Wright & Co., a copy of a booklet entitled as above. Messrs. John Wright & Co. have fitted Wright's gas grates in every room, with a gas steam radiator. The views included are delightfully printed and convey a real impression of the different rooms. The letterpress also is interesting reading, giving some entertaining facts concerning the author's life and the lives of those from whom he drew many of his characters.

A Useful Diary.

Some very useful reference data is included in a Business, Sporting and Official Diary issued by Messrs. Knight, Frank & Rutley, 20, Hanover Square, London, W.1. Apart from the many details relative to the firm's extensive activities, which frequently are of a helpful nature to the architectural profession, the booklet includes an alphabetical list of members of the House of Commons, with the names of the constituencies and the members' private or club addresses. A list of the principal Government and public offices is also included, with details concerning the personnel of each office or ministry. A useful item given is the list of British Embassies and Legations abroad, with the names and addresses of the ambassadors, envoys, ministers, etc. Many of these representatives are and can be very useful to the architectural profession in many respects. A list of foreign representatives in London is also included. Matters of an instructive nature are well represented by tables giving the scale of stamp duties, University terms, Jewish calendar, weights and measures, metric system, decimal parts of an acre, timber measurer's table length, annual close season for salmon fishing in the rivers of England and Wales, also close times for Scotland. A list of the principal golf courses in the United Kingdom, with the nearest railway station and hotel, is also included. Amongst a fund of other useful information, including a list of the principal hotels and garages in the United Kingdom (data of a very important nature in these times of road travelling), the booklet contains a well-printed diary.

Building Progress In and Near London.

In our issue of August 28th last we referred to the new Peabody dwellings for some 350 families in course of erection in Fulham Palace Road from the designs of Mr. Victor Wilkins, the Trustees' architect. To the sub-contractors therein mentioned we can now add the Grano-Metallic Paving and Plastering Co., Ltd.

A very attractive block of corner shops, etc., were recently completed at Hammersmith Broadway. A branch of Lloyd's Bank is now being opened here, with Messrs. F. D. Huntingdon, Ltd., as contractors; Haskins Brothers are carrying out the equipment.

The alteration of London continues apace, and it is well that those who once knew it and its surrounding villages in their unencumbered aspect should be here no longer to deplore the bricks and cement era which has arisen above the horizon. That fine old Elizabethan mansion, Holland House, Kensington, is (let us be thankful) still in being; but Addison, Fox and Lord and Lady Holland, with their coterie of *litterati*, would no longer recognise the Park, cut up and built over, as it is. The desecration began many long years ago, but it is due solely to the disastrous Finance Act of 1910-11 that the general *bouleversement* is taking place. One of the latest streets to be formed and built over is Ilchester Place; the architect being Mr. Leonard Martin, F.R.I.B.A., and the general contractors being the Mayfair Construction Co., Ltd. It is a real pleasure to see good-class houses being erected. Richard Whittington & Co., Ltd., are carrying out the heating, hot-water supply and plumbing; John Bolding & Sons, for sanitary ware, including "Vedas," W. W. P.'s, "New Pillar" and "Leta" w.c. apparatus, and "Valdor" and "Argo" lavatory basins; Leo Sunderland & Co., Ltd., for electric lighting; G. & A. Brown, decoration; Hydrome, Ltd., water paint; Terrano, Ltd., kitchen floor; and Bratt, Colbran & Co., interiors.

Messrs. F. D. Huntingdon, Ltd., whom we mentioned above in connection with premises at Hammersmith Broadway, are also contractors for new business premises in St. Paul's Churchyard (No. 66); Aston Construction Co., Ltd., for steel work; and Crittall Manufacturing Co., for metal windows.

The National Bank is opening a new branch in Baker Street, with Mr. M. S. Stanley Beard as the architect and Bywaters & Sons, Ltd., as general contractors; F. Bradford & Co., for hollow block floors; Speedy & Eynon, electrical engineers; and Arthur Searle & Co., for fibrous plaster decoration and French stuc.

Almost opposite the above National Bank premises in Baker Street the Midland Bank is opening a branch, for which Howard & Co. are the contractors. And close by, in Dorset Street, Hammond & Barr, Ltd., are erecting Dorset House, a block of flats. In the same neighbourhood, too, the Office of Works is putting up an important new telephone exchange, taking in a peninsular site in Nottingham, Woodstock and Northumberland Streets; Galbraith Brothers, Ltd., are the general contractors; and the Cement Marketing Co. are supplying their well-known brand, "Blue Circle Cement." The buildings are being faced with purple bricks and stone courses and dressings.

THE Clock Tower in Newington Butts, Southwark, S.E., marks the site of many churches, the last of them being erected in 1793. This old church was removed in 1876. The Clock Tower was erected in 1877. It is thought that the Clock Tower marks the site of the Saxon church named in "Domesday Book" in connection with Walworth.

The tower is 100 feet high. It was built of Bath stone. Within thirty years of its completion it was in an advanced stage of decay. The surface had suffered deterioration from the attack of the acid in the atmosphere. In 1908 the more decayed portions of the surface were replaced with new stone from the same quarries. The remainder of the surface was cleaned, and the whole was treated with a so-called stone preservative.

Last year the stone had again become so decayed from atmospheric attack that the condition of the structure became dangerous. Mr. Arthur Harrison, M.I.C.E., Engineer and Surveyor of the Borough of Southwark, and the Borough Council, consulted Mr. A. T. Bradford, of Messrs. E. J. & A. T. Bradford, of 62A, Borough Road, regarding methods of restoration. Three alternatives were considered. First, employing the method adopted sixteen years ago was abandoned. Second, refacing the tower in Portland stone, at a cost of £3,000 to £4,000 was discussed. It was decided that this was too great an expense. Third, Mr. Bradford suggested that the surface be refaced with a Portland cement mortar, composed of "Atlas White" Portland cement and a white silica sand of coarse grain, at a cost of considerably less than £1,000.

The last-mentioned procedure was adopted. The work was carried out by Mr. Bradford's firm. The perished surfaces were cut away to a point where a proper foundation for the white concrete could be obtained. The stonework was treated with a grout composed of "Atlas White" Portland cement and "Colemanoid," and the new work in white concrete was modelled entirely *in situ* with the exception of the detached finials, which were cast from the same materials. Even the plain mouldings were the work of modellers rather than plasterers, for the ultimate success of the work depended vitally upon craftsmanship. Copper dowels were inserted to carry the projections. Wide random joints, pointed with "Atlas White" concrete mortar, were adopted throughout.

An attractive finish was secured by slightly varying the tone and texture of adjoining sections of the concrete surface. The final textural finish was obtained by rubbing the surface of the white concrete after it had hardened, just as natural stone might be rubbed. The joints pointed in "Atlas White" produced an effect similar to that of blocks of natural stone. The tower is not an exhibit of restored stonework, in the sense that it has been entirely refaced with white concrete. The stone is completely covered, and thus protected by the concrete renderings from the penetration of water and moisture. No attempt was made to disguise the material used. It has no pretension to being other than proper white Portland cement concrete, though to the lay observer the tower has the appearance of being constructed from new masonry.

Another instance of covering decayed stone with white concrete renderings was executed on St. Cuthbert's Church, Philbeach Gardens, last autumn for Mr. S. Theo. Puzey, Surveyor. The stone trim on that church had become very badly damaged by atmospheric acids, and "Atlas White," Leighton Buzzard silica sand of coarse grain, and water to which "Colemanoid" had been added were successfully employed in like fashion to the work on the Clock Tower by Messrs. Dore, plasterers.

In cases where London atmosphere causes disintegration of the surface of stone, employing white concrete to protect Bath or other stone from further deterioration has the advantage of economy and permanency. No instance can be found in the London area where the surface of proper Portland cement concrete has been destroyed by atmospheric attack. Architects and surveyors who are interested, or who have under their supervision buildings which have suffered from surface deterioration, can obtain from The Adamite Company, Regent House, Regent Street, London, W.1 (sole representatives of "Atlas White" Portland cement and "Colemanoid" respectively), specifications and detailed instructions for applying white concrete renderings to stone surfaces.

Frederic Coleman



General News.

BARNES.—Plans passed: 8 maisonettes, Cromwell Place, for Mr. R. B. Rowell; store, 147 Kingsway, for Messrs. Edwin Evans & Sons; 17 houses, Upper Richmond Road, for Mr. S. E. Castle; 12 houses, Lowther Road, for Mr. Alfred Harvey.

BARNESLEY.—The Yorkshire Paper Mills, Ltd., are to proceed with a scheme for the erection of 400 houses, shops and other buildings on spare lands belonging to the Company.—Sanction has been given for a loan of £42,000 for the erection of a further 100 houses on the Pontefract Road housing estate.

BECKENHAM.—Notice is given by the Rev. C. P. Dolman of a proposal to erect a Roman Catholic elementary school for about 400 children on a site near the Beckenham Hill railway station.

CHESTERFIELD.—The Education Committee have decided to invite tenders for the erection of three classrooms at Eyre Street school, in accordance with plans prepared by Mr. P. B. Houfton, architect.—The Corporation have approved the elevation of buildings to be erected in Stephenson Place by Messrs. Eyre & Sons, Ltd.

CLAPHAM.—Plans passed by Borough Council: printing works, Edgley Road, for Messrs. F. Smith & Co. (Builders), Ltd.; 18 houses, Atkins Road, for Mr. H. A. Smith; 34 houses, Poynders Road, for Collett Building Co., Ltd.

CUCKFIELD.—The R.D.C. have appointed Mr. R. Leake as architect for a new housing scheme in Glebe Road.

FAREHAM.—The U.D.C. have voted the subsidy to Mr. T. Draper, who is to erect another 110 houses on the Earls Farm estate.

GLASGOW.—Messrs. Mactaggart & Mickel are to erect 174 houses in Clevedon Road.—In regard to Kelvin Hall the Executive Committee now recommend the plans of the City Engineer for a hall with three spans each of 110 ft. and one of 60 ft., the buildings to be constructed of ferro-concrete, such a building being less expensive to maintain than one of steel.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of a club house and the construction of bowling greens and courts adjoining the Maswell Street workshops of the gas department.—Special firms are to be invited to quote for the various works required at the new lavatory block in the quadrangle of the old Municipal Buildings.

GRAVESEND.—In view of pending housing schemes the appointment of an architectural assistant is recommended.—Plans passed: workshops, Central Station Approach, for Messrs. R. Hopkins & Sons.

LEEDS.—In order to obtain a definite comparison of the cost, the Housing Committee have arranged for the erection of six houses of the all-electric type and six of the all-gas type, to be erected on each of the four housing estates.

LEWISHAM.—The B.C. propose to install an electric lift at the town hall at a cost of about £500.—Plans passed: 10 houses, Baring Road, for Messrs. Eaglen Bros.; 4 houses, Fairfield Road, for Mr. L. Daynes Wood; additions, Fox and Hounds public-house, High Street, Sydenham, for Mr. C. E. Blackburn; new buildings at Park Hospital, Hither Green Lane, for Mr. T. Cooper.

MANCHESTER.—The following plans have been passed by the Manchester Corporation at their last meeting:—W. H. Pownall, Ltd., additions to raising department and spinning room to Daisy Works, Stockport Road, West Gorton; own staff architects.—J. C. White, alterations and additions to warehouse, Water Street; architect, G. Westcott, 13 Bridge Street.—H. Groce & Sons, additions to premises No. 1253 Ashton Old Road, Openshaw; architect, Mr. H. Slack.—Earl of Wilton, dedication plan and section of new street, Edloman Road, Middleton Road, Crumpsall; architect, Mr. L. C. Turner, Estate Office, School Street, Radcliffe.—For the Committee, additions to United Methodist Sunday School, St. Mary's Road, Moston; architects, Dixon Hill & Co., 52 Union Street, Oldham.—Cleveland Petroleum Products Co., office and petrol station, Cheetham Hill Road, Heywood Street, Cheetham; architect, Mr. H. Bateson, Bury Bridge, Bury.—Wilsons Brewery Co., Ltd., alterations to Joiners' Arms, Colliers Road, Harpurhey; architects, W. Johnson & Sons, 27 Oldham Road, Miles Platting.—T. Dutton, revised plan and section of outbuildings to 8 houses, Haddon Road, West Didsbury; architect, Mr. E. W. Taylor, 143 Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.—Cliff & Newton, alterations and additions to premises 22 to 24 Moss Lane West; architect, A. Macdonald, 71 Meadow Street, Moss Side.—C. H. Oldham, 73 houses, Edilam Road, Crumpsall; architect, Mr. C. H. Oldham, Sherdley Road, Crumpsall.—J. MacMoran, 14 houses, Lindsey Road and Paighton Avenue, Bury; architect, J. H. Mayburn, 19 Chapel Walks.—A. Bulley, 3 shops and houses, Meldon Road, Birch Fields Road, Rusholme; own architect.—F. W. Wolfenden, 4 houses, Longford Place, Rusholme; architect, H. V. Dyson, 48 Bridge Street.—H. Eaver & Co., Garages Copesticks and Broughton

Street, Ancoats; architects, Messrs. Leach & Radcliffe, Cheapside.—Beswick Co-operative Society, alteration to premises 126 and 128 Clowes Street, West Gorton; architect, A. H. Walsingham, 62 Market Street.—Mr. Dawson, shops, dance hall, offices, and store, Primill Brown and Lyon St. Ardwick; architect, Mr. E. Dawson, 49 Deansgate.—Moss Side Brewery Co., alterations to Joiners' Arms, Cedar Street and Beauray Street, Hulme; own architects.—Mr. J. Majer, 3 houses, Stanley Grove, Longsight; architect, Mr. H. V. Dyson, 48 Bridge Street. Trustees of the late W. R. Sutton, revised plan of 8 houses, Turst Road, Mont Road and Darras Road, Gorton; architect, H. S. Fairhurst, 14 Chancery Lane.—W. Midgley, redeposited plans of warehouse, Deans Street and Port Street; architects, Broughton, Atkinson & Eagle, 37 Brown Street.—D. Leigh, garage and store, Bury Old Road, Cheetham; architects, T. Cook & Sons, 2 Hobsons Court.—Hollands, Ltd., alterations to mill, Lower Vickers Street, Newton Heath; architect, Mr. J. W. Crawford.—Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., additions to Ashenhurst Dye Works, Blackley New Road; architect, Mr. H. Booth, 46 Chorlton Road.—Manchester and Salford Co-operative Society, Ltd., alteration to premises, 4 Albert Road, Levenshulme; architects, Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., 1 Balloon Street.—H. Thompson, 30 lock-up garages, North Western Street, Levenshulme.—Jefferson & Peacock, 6 houses, Fog Lane, Didsbury; architect, W. Cheetham, Chapel Street, Didsbury.—R. Berry, Ltd., alterations to premises, Holstead Street, Hulme; architect, E. D. Sherlock, 17 Lever Street.—Spanish and Portuguese Jews, revised plans and section of east end of synagogue, Lansdown Road and Queens Road, West Didsbury; architect, Mr. D. Joseph, Basinghall Street, London.—T. Seymour Mead & Co., Ltd., revised plan and section of garages, etc., Lawson Street, Hulme; architect, Mr. H. G. Bayliss, St. Georges Hall, Upper Medlock Street.—J. Alker & Co., conversion of house into shop and house, Moss Lane West and Bishop Street; architects, J. H. Maybury & Son, 19 Chapel Walks, Manchester.

MILFORD.—In connection with the scheme for the erection of a sanatorium at Milford the Surrey C.C. have instructed Mr. W. W. Nobbs, of the Heating and Ventilating Engineers' Institute, to prepare a report on the engineering proposals.

OSSETT.—The Board of Education have approved the plans for the extensions at Ossett Grammar School.—Plans passed; petrol store, Springfield Mills, for Messrs. Jessop Bros., Ltd.; semi-detached houses at Storrs Hill, for Messrs. Robertshaw & Firth.

OXLEY.—Plans of the Surveyor for bandstand, convenience, shelter, &c., at Wharfmeadows, at a cost of £2,000, have been agreed to.—Mr. Joseph Downs is to erect a store in Bondgate.

OXFORD.—Approval has been given of the layout of sites at Weirs Lane and Abingdon Road for the erection of 136 houses at a cost of £74,000.—Plans passed: conversion of 211, Banbury Road, into bank for Barclays Bank, Ltd.; additions to University Press, Great Clarendon Street, for University of Oxford; additions, 38 Queen Street, for Oxford Times, Ltd.

PRESTWICH.—Mr. J. Eastwood is to erect 13 houses on the Greengate Park estate.

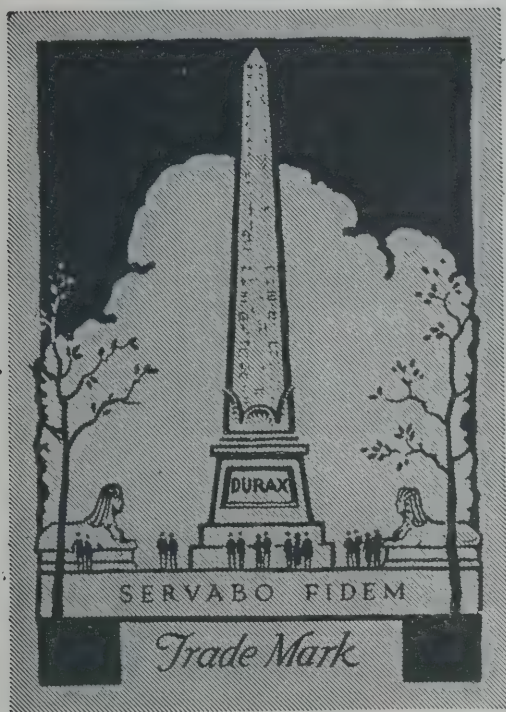
PUTNEY.—Plans passed by Borough Council: extensions, St. Margaret's Church, Putney Park Lane, for Messrs. F. G. Minter, Ltd.; 9 garages, Viborg Yard, Debemere Street, for Mr. F. J. Jee.

SALFORD.—Plans passed by the Salford Corporation at their last meeting include the following:—Covered loading way to works, Oldham Street, Salford, Messrs. Dorman & Smith, Ltd., Ordsall Lane, Salford.—Store, Clarendon Road, Salford, Messrs. J. H. Morris & Sons, Ltd., Cross Lane, Salford.—Alterations and additions to Palatine Inn, Edward Street, Broughton.—Two lock-up shops and additions to assembly room, Great Cheetham Street West, Mr. A. Cassel, 50 Hilton Street.—Revised plans, bank and offices, corner of Chapel Street and Beckley Square, Messrs. Wolfold & Eccles; architects, 60 Castle Street, Liverpool.—Conversion of lock-up shop into bank, 225 Broad Street, Pendleton, Messrs. Taylor & Simister; architects, 29 Queen Street, Oldham.—Additions to Elephant and Castle, 27 Whit Lane, Pendleton, W. Johnson & Sons; architects, 27 Oldham Road, Miles Platting.

TOOTING.—Plans passed by Borough Council: tower and narthex, St. Boniface Church, Mitcham Road, for Messrs. Hall, Beddall & Co., Ltd.; workshops at Tooting depot, for Wandsworth Borough Council; additions to workshops, Longley Road, for Tunbridge Manufacturing Co.

YORK.—Messrs. H. Colman & Sons have prepared a scheme for the layout and erection of houses at Water End, Clifton, York.

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ADDITIONS TO THIRTEENTH CENTURY COTTAGE AT DENHAM, BUCKS.

"Permanence without Maintenance."

The above is the title of a small booklet containing many illustrations of different buildings which has been sent to us by Messrs. Bell's Pailite and Everite Co., Ltd., London and Manchester. The illustration given above of additions to a thirteenth century cottage at Denham shows the artistic effect of Bell's Pailite flat sheeting. The harmony between the old and new is complete in every way. The booklet is divided into two parts. The first deals mainly with Everite corrugated sheeting, the Bigsix type of which is a most efficient material for covering large roofs of industrial buildings. The second section illustrates Pailite Pantiles. The russet-brown colour of these pantiles lends itself very well to work where a pleasing artistic effect is desired. Everyone recalls to mind the many occasions where Bell's Pailite exhibits at different exhibitions has supplied an effective display of the firm's products and a meeting-place for clients, friends, and all interested parties.

Bolton's Scheme for the Relief of Unemployment. Steel Bridges for New Highway.

Forming part of a scheme for the relief of unemployment, a new highway is now under construction at Bolton. Crossing Eagley brook and the river Tonge, the road will pass under the L.M.S. main line from Bolton to the North, and is to be the second section of a circular route which ultimately will be built round the town. Three bridges are required, each presenting its own peculiar problems of erection. To simplify these difficulties, while ensuring the maximum strength and lasting-power, steel will be employed for their construction. One of the bridges is to carry the railway line across the road, and to avoid blocking both the up and the down lines at once is to be built in two halves. John Booth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton, are carrying out the whole of the work, under the direction of the borough engineer and Messrs. C. S. Allot & Son, Manchester.

Tenders Accepted and Recommended.

Barnsley Corporation Housing Committee recommend the tender of Messrs. Beaumont & Marshall and Mr. Chas. K. Taylor to erect 50 houses each on the Ardsley estate at £420 per house.—Barnsley Corporation Housing Committee recommend the tender of Messrs. Fairhurst Bros. to erect 80 houses on the Pontefract Road site at £420 per house.—The Scottish Board of Health are agreeable to the acceptance by the Glasgow Corporation of the tender £2,534 2s. 2d. of Messrs. Brodie, Campbell

& Co., Ltd., for the erection of a welfare clinic at Elderpark.—Glasgow Corporation Housing Committee recommend the tenders of Messrs. A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd., for the provision of railings at the Hamilton Hill estate at £1,686 ls. 4d., and at the Springfield estate at £1,333 2s. 10d.

Chesterfield Corporation Housing Committee have accepted the tender (£9,034 10s.) of Messrs. Swift Bros. & Haslam, Ltd., for the erection of 19 A3 type houses at Stand Road.—Alton Board of Guardians have accepted the tender (£18,992) of Messrs. Musselwhite & Sons, of Basingstoke, for the erection of infirmary buildings.

For the building of a pump house and attendance bungalow, etc., at Soughley Lane, near Wartley, Barnsley, for the County Borough of Barnsley, Waterworks Department. J. R. Fox, engineer and manager: Lindley Bros., Stocksbridge, £1,595 16s. 11d.—For the erection of 20 houses on the Edge Green Lane site, Colborne, for the Urban District Council, Mr. J. Ford, architect, Council Offices, Colborne: Byron Bros., Hindley, £523 and £473, four parlour type and sixteen scullery type.—For works in connection with the Upton and Ellisall sewerage scheme, Hemsworth, including the construction of a new sewerage disposal works, Mr. W. T. Lynam, A.M.I.C.E., engineer to the Council, Market Street, Cross Hill: J. Bentley & Co., Bradford, £13,583 2s. 7d.—For the erection of new warehouse in Cunliffe Street, for the Peerless Refinery Co., Liverpool; architects, Messrs. Campbell & Honeyburne, 51 North John Street, Liverpool: builders' work, R. Wareing & Sons, West Derby; steelwork, Robinson & Kershaw, Manchester; plumbing, W. Pearsey, Liverpool.—For the erection of 56 type "A" and 20 type "B" houses, on a site situate near Kings Road, Wombwell, to the plans prepared by the architect, Mr. D. K. Roberts, A.R.I.B.A., Park Street, Wombwell, for the Urban District Council: 56 houses, type "A," Thomas Barker & Sons, Loughborough, £22,344; 20 houses, type "B," F. Swift, Wombwell, £8,720.

Wandsworth Borough Council Baths Committee recommend the tender £37,750 of Messrs. E. D. Winn & Co., Ltd., for the erection of a public swimming bath at Streatham.

The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the acceptance by the Wandsworth B.C. of the tender of Mr. E. Clarke for the erection of 169 houses at Furzedown, for which purpose sanction has been given for a loan of £94,800.

Boyle's Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilators have been applied to the Congregational Schools, Paddock Lane, Desboro'. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

CONTENTS.

The A.A. Play entitled "The Touchstone or Architectural Explorations"	PAGE 455	Sir Hamo Thornycroft, R.A.	PAGE 458
Proposed New Police and Fire Station at Newcastle-upon-Tyne	458	Some Northumbrian Castles	459
		Park-Belts in Australia and New Zealand	463
		R.I.B.A. Meeting	466

The A.A. Play entitled "The Touchstone or Architectural Explorations."



THE FIGHT IN THE MOATED GRANGE SCENE.

We are uncertain whether anyone in the Christmas week reads at all; we are quite certain, if they do, it will not be a discussion on the future tendencies of architectural design, the advantages of registration, the possibility of underpinning Waterloo Bridge, the right method of designing ferro concrete or any like subject. For a brief week we forget the disappointments of the past, and do not speculate on the chances of the New Year, or the opportunities and dangers it may bring for us. If we read at all, it will be something which amuses, excites, or on the other hand appeals to sentiment, which, though we may affect to ignore it, is as vital a force to-day as it ever was in the centuries which are included in the past.

Under these circumstances, having pages to fill, can we do better than by making some reference to the A.A. play? This has two advantages, one of which is that anything produced under the auspices of the A.A. must be architectural, and therefore peculiarly suited to a journal whose title connects it more closely to the profession than that given to any other; while the other advantage is that, ponder over it as we may, we can discern little that has the remotest connection with the many problems which we wrestle with. This being the case, we may contrive even in Christmas

week to write something which may be read. If we can do so we shall have achieved unusual success.

We have but two criticisms to utter which are not wholly and absolutely complimentary to this year's performance. The first of these is that, in spite of its great and well-sustained interest, the performance was quite half an hour too long. The under-running problem was the question "What is architecture?" The answer was delayed till the final scene, which numbered 11. Now, anxious as we all are to know what architecture is, those of us who live outside London have to catch last trains, and many so situated do not feel inclined to spend a night in the streets of the metropolis, even if we have discovered the solution of the question. Our further criticism is that the various scenes are disjointed—if perfect performances—having little or no sequence with each other. The English reader often puts on one side a collection of short stories, however excellent, in favour of a book on one theme, and similarly most of us prefer a play, whether farce, comedy or tragedy, to a revue, and the A.A. play is a little of the latter type of performance.

It consists of a Prologue and eleven scenes, in the first of which we have the President of the R.I.B.A. admirably represented by Mr. J. D. Beloe, and the

Secretary played by Mr. E. G. S. Elliot. A letter is received propounding the question "What is architecture?" and, after some dismay and discussion, emissaries are despatched to the four quarters of the globe to discover the answer.

Scene Two is subdivided into two scenes, and is entitled "The Outposts of Empire," and in it a most talented actor, Mr. H. S. M. Carver, who takes the part of Captain John Strongjaw, wins laurels by his humorous poses, which are subsequently enhanced in other and different scenes. Privates Struth and Jim Jams, played by R. S. Lavers and S. N. Bertram, and Sergeant-Major Bloggins, played by L. H. B. Roberts, were excellent; while Miss Prudence Bateson carried off the part of the heroine, Ivy Clingverry, very admirably.

The Third Scene gave us "The Innocents Abroad," an A.A. excursion to Volutia, and formed a most amusing skit on its prototype. It again was divided into three scenes, which portrayed the delights of continental travelling, the arrival at a foreign town and the entertainment provided by local dignitaries, foreign architects and others. Scene Five was "A South Sea Bubble," the parts of the native queen and king being admirably played by Miss Joy Wall and Mr. H. S. Carver.

An interval of ten minutes was the prelude to an imitation of a cinema performance entitled "The Leaven of Love," described as "a rectangular picture by the A.A. studios, one of the least stupendous one-reelers of the century." The hero—of course, an architect—was admirably played by J. D. Beloe, his mother by Miss Frances Buckland, who betrays so great a talent for the stage that the mistress Art seems in danger of losing one of its most promising recruits. The steamer scenes—for we are treated to the incidents of a voyage—were realistic renderings, and the short screen announcements of the story hugely delighted an enthusiastic audience. This scene may, perhaps, be characterised as the climax of a very successful evening, though more good things followed.

Scene Seven, entitled "Three Characters," the

father, the son and a girl, gave us some quiet and excellent byplay, the three characters being taken by E. G. S. Elliot, R. F. McQuistan and Miss Prudence Bateson.

Scene Eight, written by Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, and entitled "Decoration à la Carte," was one of the best things of the evening, largely because it had a little more thread and substance behind it than some of the other sketches. Again Mr. H. S. M. Carver gave us an excellent presentation of character in the part of the decorator, Laverstoke. His secretary, Mr. R. Walker, played well, and Miss Joy Wall was admirable in the part of the fascinating Mlle. Renée Delage.

Scene Nine, "Architectural Asides," was very good. Miss Frances Buckland in the part of a mother—of the people—was inimitably amusing, and her daughter, played by Miss Anne Brinton, was also good. Standing on a bridge they discussed in shrill and excited tones the character of a pageant of the nature of which, the name of the architect and the function he performed were matters in which mother and daughter showed complete ignorance.

Scene Ten gave us "The A.A. Drinking Song," in which the entire male cast and the waitresses took part under the ægis of Touchstone, played by Mr. R. Walker.

Scene Eleven was entitled "The Answer." What that answer was we are ignorant of, for reasons we have briefly alluded to, but possibly there is a deep and psychic significance in the postponement of the answer until most seats were empty! "What is architecture?" If we all of us knew, might we not be afraid to call ourselves "architects"? May not architecture in its truest and highest sense be as inaccessible as the Himalayan heights, and might not our ranks be diminished if we could understand the true nature of the mistress Art?

Meanwhile we "The Architect" wish our readers—those who will be our readers and those who are unable to be our readers because every copy has been sold out—the compliments of the season, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Our Illustrations.

MEMORIAL HALL, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. MESSRS. RICHARDSON & GILL, Architects.
DESIGN FOR BUNGALOW. F. LEONARD POOLE, Architect.
PROPOSED BUNGALOW QUARTERS AT KUMASI, ASHANTI. R. J. HUGH MINTY, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

Building in Kenya.

It is reported from Nairobi that the Legislative Council have adopted a programme which involves the expenditure of nearly £3,000,000 on public works, the chief items of which are the building of schools, the provision of water supplies, town planning schemes, maize drying and cold storage plant, houses for officials, offices for the K.A.R. lines, hospitals, roads, bridges, a supreme court, and improvements at Government House.

We are glad to notice that Mr. Herbert Baker is to give advice as to the general lines of the design of buildings, which his experience in South Africa and India should enable him to do with success.

It was most fortunate for South African architecture that both Cecil Rhodes and Lord Milner should have been keenly and sympathetically interested in the subject and

found in Mr. Herbert Baker one who could give expression to their wishes.

Wet Time.

It is stated that an official scheme for dealing with the "Wet Time" question is under preparation, and we hope that this may be conducive to greater harmony with the building trades. At the same time it may be pointed out that as any such scheme is in the nature of an insurance, it has to be paid for by contributions from both the parties involved. Is there not a good deal in the saying "make hay while the sun shines," which we might paraphrase by saying, "lay bricks while the daylight lasts," for, if rather more use were made of the longer summer hours and of opportunities arising out of fine weather, the operatives would earn wages some part of which might be set aside against the contingencies of bad weather. This would provide funds without the necessity of making the deductions from wages involved in any insurance scheme.

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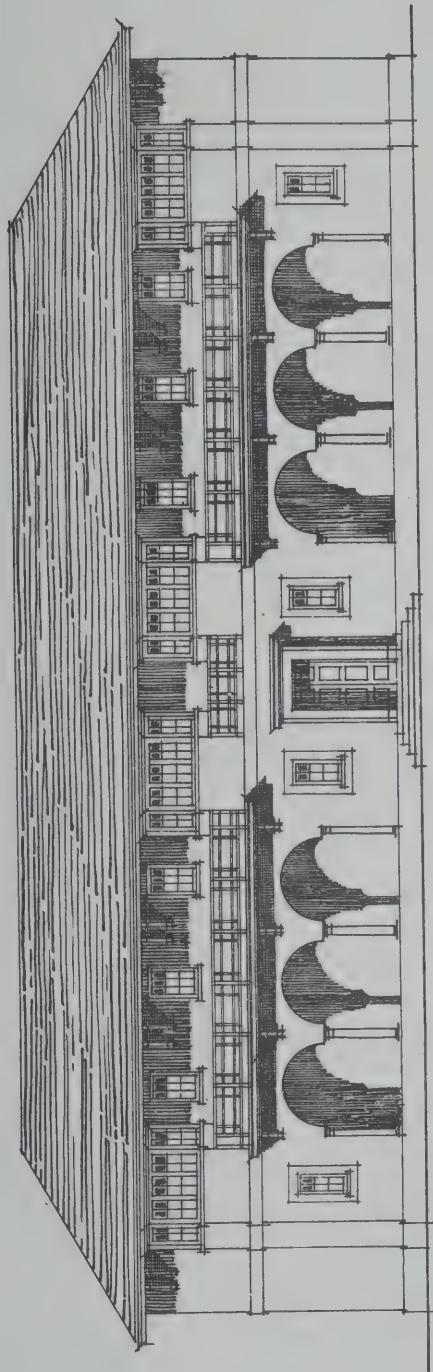
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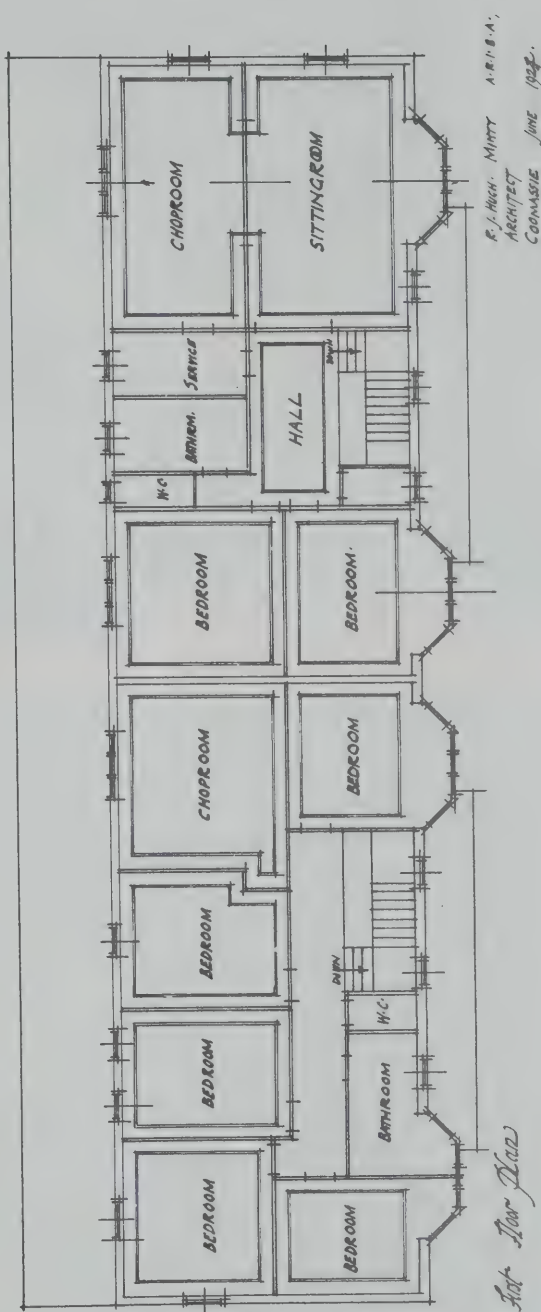
DESIGN FOR BUNGALOW.
F. LEONARD POOLE, ARCHITECT.

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Elevation to Proposed Road



*Architect
R. J. HUGH MINTY, A.R.I.B.A.,
COGNAC, JUNE 1925.*

*Architect
R. J. HUGH MINTY, A.R.I.B.A.,
COGNAC, JUNE 1925.*

PROPOSED BUNGALOW QUARTERS AT KUMASI, ASHANTI.
R. J. HUGH MINTY, A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

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ARTEMIS, GODDESS OF THE CHASE.

THE LATE SIR HARGREAVES THORNHILL, R.A., Sculptor.



BRONZE STATUE OF EDWARD I.

A Review of the Designs Submitted in Competition for the Proposed New Police and Fire Station, Marlborough Crescent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The award of the assessor, Dr. Percy S. Worthington, F.R.I.B.A., in the competition for the proposed new police and fire station, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, has now been made, and the first premium has been awarded to Messrs. Ivor Jones and Percy Thomas, Cardiff, the second premium to Mr. E. Vincent Harris, London, and the third premium to Messrs. Cackett and Burns-Dick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The site for the proposed new station is an island triangular site with important thoroughfares on all three sides. The type of building desired was indicated in the conditions of the competition, and it was specified that the buildings should be arranged around a large central court which should be common for both fire brigade and police station purposes. The engine house for eight engines had to open on to Westmorland Road, and the police station had to face Scotswood Road and be entered from it. The fire station and police station were to be entirely separate and self contained, but an uninterrupted building around the site was, if possible, desired. Two entrances were to be provided to the court for fire engines, one from Marlborough Crescent at the Scotswood Road end, and the other in Scotswood Road. The Westmorland Road frontage is fairly level, but the site falls rapidly from this street to the junction of Marlborough Crescent and Scotswood Road.

The accommodation required was specified in considerable detail. In addition to the engine house the fire station had to contain repair shops, watchroom and offices, gymnasium and recreation rooms, hose tower, superintendent's house, quarters for 36 married men, houses for three officers, quarters for 10 single men, messroom, etc.

The police station comprised a number of offices, charge room, parade room, eight cells, ambulance house, coach-house and stables, quarters for 18 single men, quarters for two married men, and houses for the police superintendent and cab inspector.

It was suggested that as far as possible the building should be constructed of materials other than brick, and the entire cost of the building and its equipment, exclusive of furniture, was not to exceed £100,000.

Forty-seven designs were received, and the first premium has been awarded to No. 24, by Messrs. Ivor Jones and Percy Thomas, of Cardiff. They have undoubtedly produced the outstanding design of the competition and well merit the award. In the general placing of the engine house, police station and other departments they closely follow the requirements and suggestions in the conditions, and their design displays an intimate knowledge of the practical requirements of both police and fire stations. The engine house is on the Westmorland Road frontage, with the repair shops on the Marlborough Crescent side of the courtyard. The police station is well planned on the Scotswood Road side, with central entrance from Scotswood Road, and the ambulance house, stables and coach-house are placed at the junction of Marlborough Crescent and Scotswood Road. The mezzanine floor, between the ground and first floors, accommodates the quarters for single firemen and single police, the messroom and superintendent's houses. On the first and second floors, which extend right round the courtyard, are the married quarters and the remaining officers' houses. The third floor extends over the Westmorland Road front only, and comprises the gymnasium, recreation, reading and billiard rooms. The elevations are simple, well proportioned and grouped, and very suitable for carrying out in a terra-cotta material. The drawings are very well presented in pencil with the outlines of the plans inked in. On minor points one could criticise the design for the subway to the ambulance house and the placing of the cells below the charge room, thus entailing extra supervision, but such points are very small when compared with the all-round excellence of the design.

The second premium has been awarded to design No. 28,

the author of which is Mr. E. Vincent Harris, of London. The general planning is not as excellent as that of the first premiated design, but the accommodation is very compactly and cleverly arranged in such a manner that the building is one floor less in height than the majority of the other designs. The question of providing the accommodation on the minimum of floors was a very important point, particularly so as the upper stories were to be allocated for the married quarters. The engine house, entrances and repair shops are generally placed in similar positions to those in the first premiated design, as is the police station, which is, however, of two floors with the cells in the basement. The mezzanine, first and second floors accommodate the various quarters, with the gymnasium on the second floor. The elevations are charming in a very pleasing renaissance treatment, and are accompanied by a beautifully rendered half-inch detail.

The third premium has been awarded to design No. 29, by Messrs. Cackett and Burn-Dick, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This is a very meritorious design and well deserves its position. In its planning it follows generally the same lines as the first premiated design, but a bold and successful departure has been made from the general solution in placing the gymnasium over the Scotswood Road front. Another very excellent feature in this plan is the ready access the single firemen have to the engine house from their sleeping quarters, an arrangement which is probably better than that in any other scheme submitted. The elevations are upon sound and economical lines, exceedingly pleasing and well suited to their purpose.

Forty-seven designs in all were submitted, and the majority of them bear a general resemblance to the winning type. This is, no doubt, due to the positions of the engine house, police station, courtyard and other details of the building required being so clearly set out in the conditions. Among many other excellent designs we noted particularly No. 44, which provides an entrance to the police station from the junction of Scotswood Road and Marlborough Crescent and a courtyard entrance in the centre of the Scotswood Road frontage. No. 22 is also a good scheme in which architecturally a feature is made of the hose tower. Nos. 10 and 1 are also very good, straightforward and satisfactory schemes. Nos. 38 and 41 do not build on the whole of the site, but produce a symmetrically laid out building about an axis on the centre of the Scotswood Road frontage. This treatment does not produce any advantage and materially reduces the size of the courtyard.

Generally speaking, the profession has responded well to this competition, and both the assessor and the promoters are to be congratulated upon obtaining such an excellent result.

Sir Hamo Thornycroft, R.A.

By the untimely death of Sir Hamo Thornycroft, England loses one of its foremost exponents of the art of sculpture. He was born in 1850 and, therefore, belongs to the Victorian age, but his sculpture had a vigour and distinction which gave it a high place in a later and more critical age. He was a gold medallist of the Academy in 1875, and was elected an Associate in 1881, and a R.A. in 1888. His most notable works were his statue of Artemis, bought by the Duke of Westminster, the statues of Queen Victoria in front of the Royal Exchange, Cromwell, the national memorial to Gladstone, another statue of Queen Victoria at Karachi, and of King Edward at the same place, the Curzon and Gordon memorials and the War Memorial at Durban. He was a man of outstanding personality, and was most generous and appreciative of the work of his fellow-artists who were endeared to him by his great personal tenderness and generosity of nature. We illustrate two of Sir Hamo Thornycroft's well-known works by courtesy of "Modern British Sculpture," which is an official record of the works executed by members of the Royal Society of British Sculptors.

Some Northumbrian Castles.

By KENNETH GLOVER, F.R.I.B.A.

Illustrated by Byron Dawson

III.—Bamburgh and Belsay.



BAMBURGH CASTLE. Drawn by BYRON DAWSON.

Where "the lordly strand of Northumberland" begins to curve north-west, the geological formation known as the Great Whin Sill rises at several points in isolated masses. It is on one of these, rising to a height of over 150 feet above low-water mark, that Bamburgh Castle stands.

The scenery about it is noble, if somewhat austere. To the west, flat lands lead up to hills which, becoming gradually steeper, culminate in the peaks of the Cheviots; to the east the Farne Isles lie darkly on the waves; to the south Dunstanboro Castle rears its ruined walls; and five miles to the north is Holy Island, the cradle of Christianity in Northumbria.

Ever upon the air are borne the shrill cries of seabirds, for the Farnes are a wild-bird sanctuary.

The bright, calm days of summer do not seem to provide a fitting atmosphere for Bamburgh. It is best:

"Seen where the moving isles of winter shock

By night, with noises of the northern sea";

or shrouded in misty vapours, standing grey on its black rocks.

Turner got a good deal of the spirit of the place into his picture of it; but Girtin was evidently there on a placid day of autumn. There is nothing grim about it in his drawing.

The castle covers the whole crown of the rock mass, which is about a quarter of a mile long. On the northern and western sides the rock faces are precipitous, while on the eastern side it is supposed that at one time the sea washed the cliff base.

Far back into history we have to look for the beginnings of Bamburgh. In Celtic times there was probably a stronghold here; but it was Ida the "Flame Bearer," founder of the Northumbrian dynasty, who built the first fortress of consequence. Ida's grandson, Aethelfrith, was twice married, and his second wife bore the name of Bebb. It was from her that the place took its name of Bebbanburgh.

In A.D. 651 Penda, a ruthless and warlike King of the Mercians, laid siege to Bamburgh. St. Aidan was on one of the Farne Isles at the time, and he saw the flames leap up in the wind above the castle walls. Kneeling in prayer, he called, "Behold, Lord, how great mischief Penda does." He had barely uttered the words when the wind suddenly changed direction, and some of those who had kindled the

flames were severely burnt; the rest made away in great discomfiture from smoke and missiles, and the attack was abandoned.

But Penda patiently waited until the death of St. Aidan, who breathed his last in August, 651, against the walls of the small timber church. In 652 Penda again attacked the fortress, but he apparently failed to demolish it, and took revenge by burning both village and church.

When we come to the last years of the eleventh century, we find the Danes had stormed and pillaged the castle, and left it in a ruinous condition.

Many famous men were either besiegers or besieged here, including William II, David of Scotland, King John, Piers de Gaveston, Edward I, David Bruce, the Earl of Murray, and Edward III.

It was in the last king's reign that the castle was thoroughly restored.

During the Wars of the Roses Bamburgh was chiefly in Royalist hands.

James I granted the castle and manor to one of the old Northumbrian families, the Forsters. By wild and reckless extravagance this family lost their inheritance, and the estate was forfeited and sold to Lord Crewe in 1704.

Under his will the estate was to be administered for charitable purposes, and it was Dr. Sharpe, one of the trustees, who restored the castle in c. 1758.

In 1894 the estate again changed hands, being bought by the first Lord Armstrong, whose successor is the present possessor. Between 1895 and 1900 Lord Armstrong undertook the repair of the whole of the buildings, leaving the castle as we see it now.

As may be imagined, the reparations undertaken c. 1758 were not entirely happily inspired; and if, to some extent, the same may be said of the nineteenth-century work, this at least cleared away some entirely unsympathetic replacements of the earlier restorer. We may put it in this way, that it is more a fault of textures than of architectural features. We have only to go to Lindisfarne Castle and see what Sir Edwin Lutyens has done there, to be made at once aware of the subtle distinction between text-book handling and the sympathetic work of a true artist.

Nevertheless, it must not be supposed that Bamburgh



BAMBURGH CASTLE. Drawn by BYRON DAWSON.

Castle has been ruined from an architectural or archaeological view-point. The ancient masonry can still include the elevation of the King's Hall, the small square tower, the Davye tower and much of the Keep.

The enclosure is divided into three wards—North, Middle and South—the Keep occupying the northern end of the South Ward. The area covered by the whole enclosed space is about eight acres, and the disposition of the main buildings resembles that at Warkworth. The Great Gatehouse is at the south-eastern end, and near this is the Chapel; to the left (again as at Warkworth) are the King's Hall, and beyond, the Norman Keep. At the northern end of the site is the Old Windmill, which lends beauty to the group.

The Keep resembles most of the Norman keeps in its general planning; it is 69 feet long, 61 feet wide, east to west, and 55 feet high. It is thus 30 feet lower than the Newcastle example, though its width is but one foot less. But the comparatively low height of the Keep is detrimental to the effect of the group as a whole, when viewed from a short distance; and it is necessary to walk quite half a mile from the Castle to obtain a satisfying impression of the whole mass.

It cannot be pretended, whatever be its size, that it can make, to the eye of architect or artist, the appeal of Warkworth or Aydon; nor can it be denied that there is some aspect of the prison about it.

There is something a little forbidding about this castle,

"Where lay the mighty bones of ancient man,
Old knights, and over them the sea-wind sang,
Shrill, chill, with flakes of foam."

Belsay Castle occupies a site of an entirely different nature. It is fifteen miles north-west of Newcastle, and stands in the peaceful pastoral landscape of Northumberland, among beautiful trees. Here are no precipitous cliffs; indeed, there are no natural features which could have decided

the choice of the site, except the existence of an unlimited supply of sandstone.

There is no actual record of the date of its building. Sir Arthur Middleton, the present owner, wrote, some few years ago, a valuable and beautifully illustrated account of the Castle. At that time it was generally supposed that Sir John de Strivelyn was the builder; but Sir Arthur Middleton has recently, from further evidence (I quote his own words), "put the date of the building of the castle at 1421 and its building by the Sir John de Middleton of that date."

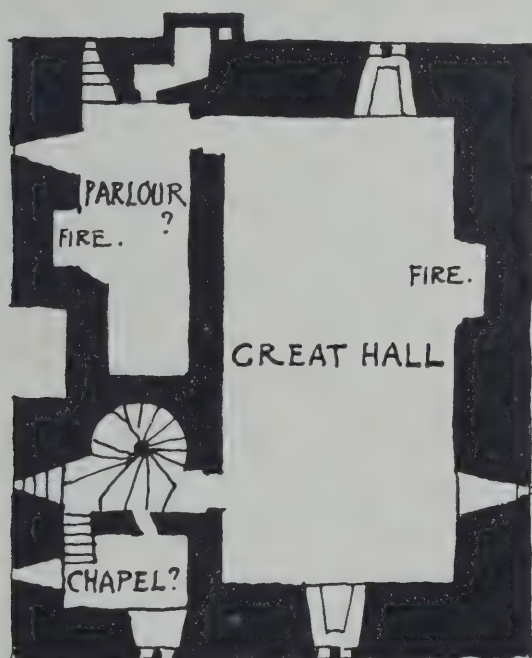
From that time to the present day the property has remained in the family of Middleton.

The Keep—for that is what it is—is probably the most perfectly preserved specimen of castellated architecture in Northumberland; and the structure we see to-day is in no essential particular different from that which its mediæval possessors looked upon. Originally there was possibly a barbican, and possibly also a curtain wall; but there was never, otherwise, anything but the square Keep and its stables, until the early part of the seventeenth century, when a more comfortable residence was built adjoining the western wall of the castle. This later building has a delightful porch of coupled columns with a shield above.

The Keep is a rectangular building, planned on the usual lines. It is divided by a cross wall, running from north to south, which separates the great hall from its appurtenances. The dimensions of the Keep externally are 56 feet 2 inches from north to south, by 47 feet east to west, and its greatest height is 70 feet. The great hall is 42 feet 9 inches from north to south, by 21 feet 6 inches east to west, and 17 feet high. We can best visualise the plans by saying that the great hall has below it a chamber of similar size, which was probably the kitchen, and a chamber above it of similar size, which was possibly a



BELSAY CASTLE. Drawn by BYRON DAWSON.



BELSAY CASTLE. PLAN OF 1ST FLOOR.

ladies' withdrawing room. The remainder is occupied by the narrow entrance, porter's room, chapel, and what were probably parlours. From these latter latrines are built out from the main wall. The approach to the first floor is by a circular staircase with an "umbrella" vault at the top.

Nevertheless, it is a building of great charm. Externally the walls rise, plain and unadorned, to a little less than half their height, where a string course runs round them. At the four corners are machicolated and battlemented turrets of circular form, flush with the angles, but oversailed on either side. The south-western turret is carried higher than the others, and is also attached to a square tower of the same height as itself.

The walls of the interior of the great hall were decorated with mural paintings consisting of trees with lopped branches; on some of these shields were depicted, bearing various arms. Other features of these pleasant decorations

were Norman-looking ships and floral borders. Some of these decorations still exist but are so decayed as to be barely visible in the subdued light.

Sir Charles Monck, the grandfather of the present owner of Belsay, was an enthusiast for Greek architecture. On his travels abroad he saw and admired the wonders of Athens. It was the time of Stuart and Revett's exertions in the exploration of Greek remains, and Sir Charles became imbued with the idea that mediæval masonry was poor craftsmanship. Greek architecture was not only the fashion, but was also incomparable.

He decided he must have a small Greek palace at Belsay, and with some assistance from the famous John Dobson, he drew out plans for the Doric mansion which stands about half a mile from the old castle and Jacobean house. Unfortunately, he pulled down some of the Jacobean manor-house so as to make it of more suitable size for a steward's dwelling, which it still is.

The family of the Middletons have continued to occupy the Doric mansion to the present day, but the old Keep has been exceptionally well cared for.

The stone for the classic building was obtained from ground lying between the Hall and the Castle, and these quarries have been transformed into a very beautiful rock garden. They have been described as "haunts of the wildest sylvan beauty," and it is undeniable that it would be difficult to exaggerate their extraordinary loveliness.

Ruskin touches upon this neglect of natural beauty in "Modern Painters" *:—

"Men learned the dexterity with sword and syllogism, which they mistook for education, within cloister and tilt-yard; and looked on all the broad space of the world of God mainly as a place for exercise of horses, or growth of food . . . and sometimes I cannot but think of the trees of the earth as capable of a kind of sorrow, in that imperfect life of theirs, as they opened their innocent leaves in the warm spring-time in vain for men; and all along the dells of England her beeches cast their dappled shade only where the outlaw drew his bow and the King rode his careless chase. . . ."

* "Modern Painters," Vol. V., pp. 4 and 5.

NOTE.—I have to thank Sir Arthur Middleton, Bt., of Belsay, for kindly permitting me to reproduce the plan of Belsay Castle by Mr. Knowles, F.R.I.B.A., and also for new information as to its date and builder.



"GREENBANKS," LYNDAL, HAMPSTEAD.
GORDON ALLEN, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

The City Diary.

Owing to the many changes in the personnel of the municipal city, the new diary, which is published at 2s., and represents the 63rd annual issue, will be more than useful. To-day it is absolutely necessary for those who desire to be successful in business to possess the correct knowledge concerning officials that they desire to approach. The blotting paper which interleaves a useful diary, imparts much data concerning different insurance policies.

Calenders.

The Gresham Insurance Societies, who recently occupied fine new head offices at 188-190 Fleet Street, E.C.4, have sent us a blotter and calendar. The cover of the former illustrates in colours a picture by Corot titled "The Woodcutter," the original of which is in the possession of the Glasgow Corporation. The reproduction conveys a faithful impression of the original. The calendar is of the useful pattern which stands on a desk in a firm manner. Messrs. Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co., Ltd., printers, lithographers, etc., etc., 1 New Street Square, E.C.4, are issuing a useful calendar for the general office. The lettering is well selected, and the general arrangement bespeaks taste and utility.

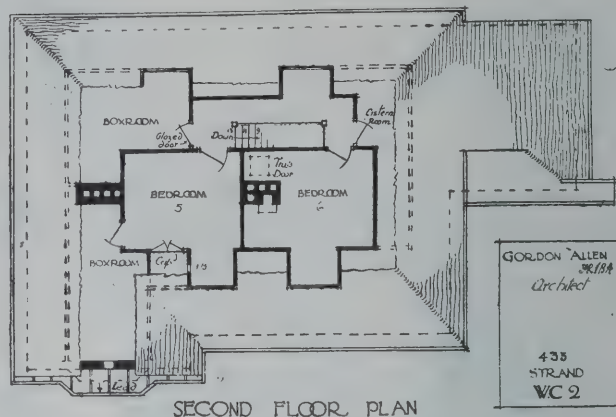
Messrs. Shaw & Sons, Ltd., publishers and manufacturing stationers, 7 and 8 Fetter Lane, E.C.4, have sent us a pleasing picture of Lincoln's Inn gateway. Reproduced and printed in colours from an original watercolour on the card below the picture, a tear-off calendar is attached. The whole production is dignified, the colour of the tear-off leaves harmonises with the colours in the watercolour painting, and thus forms an attractive calendar. Six clever colour reproductions of humorous drawings entitled "Wireless Howlers," characterises the calendar published by the Anglo-Havana Cigar Company, 127 Fenchurch Street, E.C. Each plate serves a period of two months, thus references of dates gone by and to come can conveniently be made.

Mr. R. Langton Cole, F.R.I.B.A., is retiring from the Stock Exchange on December 31 next. After that date, correspondence relating to those premises should be addressed to Mr. G. J. Buckingham, Surveyor of Works, at 23 Throgmorton Street, E.C.2.

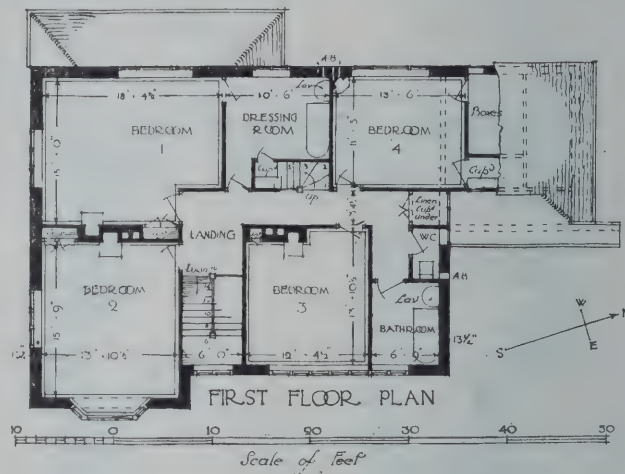
Mr. Langton Cole's address will be Abbey House, Westminster, S.W.1, to where all professional communications (apart from the Stock Exchange) should be forwarded, from and after January 1, 1926. His telephone number will be Victoria 6678.

"Greenbanks," Lyndale, Hampstead

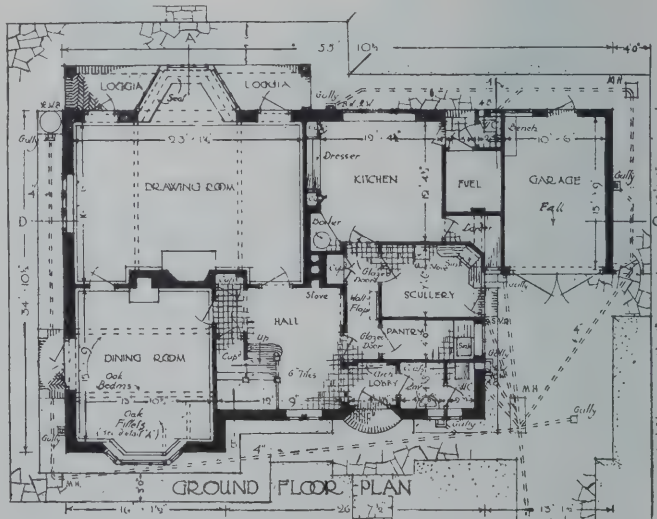
This house, which was recently built on a pleasant site, contains—besides the usual offices—seven bedrooms, dressing room and boxrooms in the upper storeys, and two sitting rooms, hall and garage on the ground floor. There



is a red-brick fireplace in the dining room, where the walls are panelled in oak. The drawing room fireplace is of painted wood and tiles, to special design. Externally the walls are of mottled bricks, and the roof is covered with



handmade brown tiles. The oak front door has a bronze knocker and letter box (made by Cashmore, Bowman & Co., Ltd., of Balham). Bratt, Colbran & Co., of Mortimer Street, W., supplied the fireplaces. The



sanitary fittings came from Alfred Goslett & Co., Ltd., of Charing Cross Road, and the door furniture from W. & R. Leggott, Ltd., of Holborn. Henry Hope & Sons supplied the steel casements. Messrs. Scales, Son & Bragg, of Letchworth, were the general contractors, and Mr. Gordon Allen, F.R.I.B.A., of 435 Strand, was the architect.

Park-belts in Australia and New Zealand.

The Example of Pioneer Town Planners.

Pioneer town planning and park-belt reservations in the laying-out of the principal towns and cities of Australia and New Zealand during the early years of the nineteenth century was the subject of an historic survey and illustrated discourse at the Institute of Civil Engineers on Wednesday, December 9, by Mr. Charles C. Reade, Government Town Planner of the Federated Malay States.

Mr. Cecil Harnsworth (President of the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association) presided.

The lecturer was formerly Government Town Planner of South Australia and responsible for the organisation of national conferences and passage of town planning and housing legislation in that State. In the course of a lecturing tour throughout Australia and New Zealand on behalf of the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association during 1914-5, and later in London, he had made various researches into the origin of the town-planning system which resulted in the creation of numerous parks and open spaces in many towns. Both in New Zealand and South Australia extensive park-belts separating the existing town from the open country were laid down and reserved in most cases by instruction from those responsible for the creation of the reform schemes of settlement which originated in London from 1830 onwards. These park-belts originally were reserved for the purpose of public recreation. In the case of the New Zealand towns they were intended not to be built upon, but to remain a wide strip of open land between the central town and the open farm lands beyond.

Suburban growths and town extensions of the past fifty years had long passed beyond the original town belts which, for the greater part, remained to-day an extraordinary asset and a valuable object lesson in providing means of recreation, pleasure and utility to the urban populations of to-day.

The early methods of the disposal of lands in Australia for settlement and town purposes were supplanted by the system of reform advocated by the different colonisation associations founded by Edward Gibbon Wakefield and others in London from 1830 onwards. The Wakefield system was responsible for carrying into effect, both in Australia and New Zealand important changes in the planning and laying-out of towns, which led to more extensive and considered provision of open spaces, squares, sites for public buildings, wider streets and public purposes generally. Some people appeared to think that these developments were due originally to the skill and foresight of the pioneer surveyors and administrators responsible for the initial stages of planning and development. The splendid achievements of these pioneers were, however, in no sense diminished by the fact that instructions for the proper laying-out of towns (including provisions for belts of parklands separating the city from the open country) had emanated in the first instance from London. These instructions appeared, in part, to be influenced by town planning ideas and practice in Great Britain derived in part from eighteenth century developments in Edinburgh, Bath, London and elsewhere.

Some years prior to the foundation of the first reform settlement in South Australia between 1836-7, when Colonel Light planned the city of Adelaide, the advocates of the Wakefield system and other pioneers of colonisation reform devoted much time and attention to settling the details of town design considered appropriate for the proposed schemes of settlement in South Australia and elsewhere. Plans for a model town in Australia, surrounded by a belt of parklands one mile wide and equipped with squares, open spaces, crescents, and other public reservations, were published in London in 1830, the year that witnessed the birth of Wakefield's first colonisation society which exerted such wide influence upon subsequent developments in Australia and New Zealand.

It was an important circumstance, however, that although the instructions from London to the New Zealand surveyors in 1839-40 were very definite in respect to the provision of a

belt of parklands between the proposed town and the open country, the instructions issued by the South Australian Commissioners from London to Colonel Light for the laying-out of the first town in the new British Colony contained no direct reference to parklands. In other respects, however, the instructions relating to the town were similar in character to those given later to the New Zealand surveyors.

The lecturer showed by various examples that for fifty years prior to the foundation of Adelaide, however, there were considerable efforts at town planning in the Crown settlements of Sydney, Hobart and other towns in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). Numerous reserves for town sites, together with sites for public and ecclesiastic purposes, had been made. Leading towns had been equipped with squares, crescents and park areas under the influence of British ideas and possibly earlier developments in the American colonies and other possessions. The laying down of important streets from 60 to 99 feet in width in place of earlier standards based on 40 and 50 feet had also been accomplished, but with only partial success.

Mr. Reade was doubtful, in the present state of knowledge and research, whether it could be said who was the originator of the park-belt scheme. Further examination of the records in London and elsewhere seemed necessary. Even so, there was no disputing the fact that Colonel William Light was the first of the pioneer town planners in Australia to design and carry out a distinctive system of park-belts in association with his very spacious and far-seeing plans for the city of Adelaide and its surrounding country. Light's achievement was all the more remarkable in the face of the bitter opposition and personal obloquy he suffered at the hands of those who owed everything to his brilliant skill and ability in selecting the site and planning the first great city of the reform era in Australia. The example of Adelaide could be traced through many subsequent town plans in Australia. It became the model for several colonisation projects in Western Australia, and its influence upon Melbourne, Brisbane, and other centres could be established by reference to plans and documents of the period.

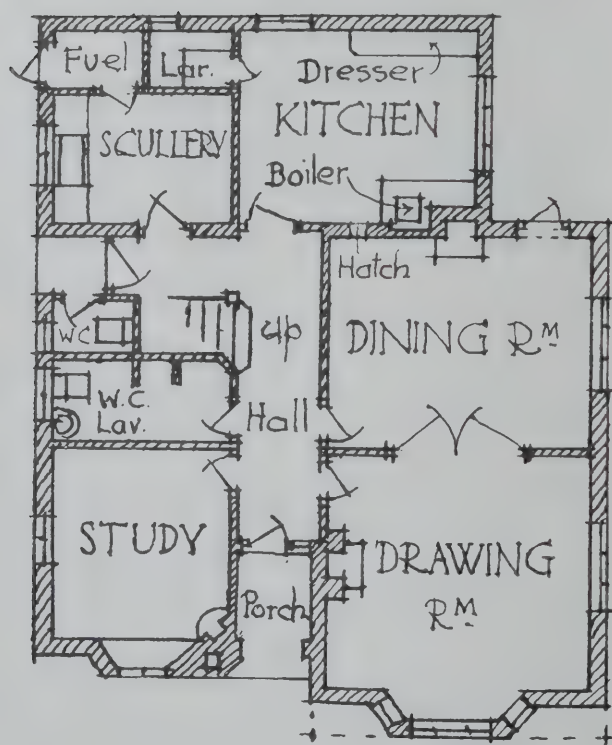
The present-day value of the park-lands to Adelaide and suburbs was immeasurable. They were an object lesson to towns and cities in countries both old and new, seeking to promote improvements and extension under modern laws relating to town and city planning. Similar object lessons were to be had in the New Zealand cities (Wellington and Dunedin especially) which also possessed wide spaces of open land between the central business areas and the modern suburbs. It had yet to be proved that the New Zealand system, dating from 1839-40, was the outcome of Colonel Light's example in South Australia during 1836-7, or whether both were not part of an inspiration derived from pioneer reformers in London, who from 1830 onwards gave such distinctive character and force to the reforms affecting the colonisation of these countries at the time.

An important section of the lecture dealt with the restrictive influence of park-belts upon modern town development and their effect upon housing, land values, and other urban problems. It was shown that the unintelligent enclosure and locking up of small towns had, in certain instances, resulted in difficulties of expansion and development in the case of growing towns. Methods of planning and lay-out designed to overcome these difficulties were illustrated.

The lecturer, in conclusion, strongly emphasised the need for outer and inner park systems in most modern towns. Financial and other provisions required consideration in formulating legislation for regional planning or the replanning of existing towns. In this respect he suggested that further attention and study could, with advantage, be given to the legislation and special assessment areas practised in Boston, Kansas City, Denver and other American cities with such conspicuous success.



HOUSE AT WALMER, KENT. GORDON ALLEN, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

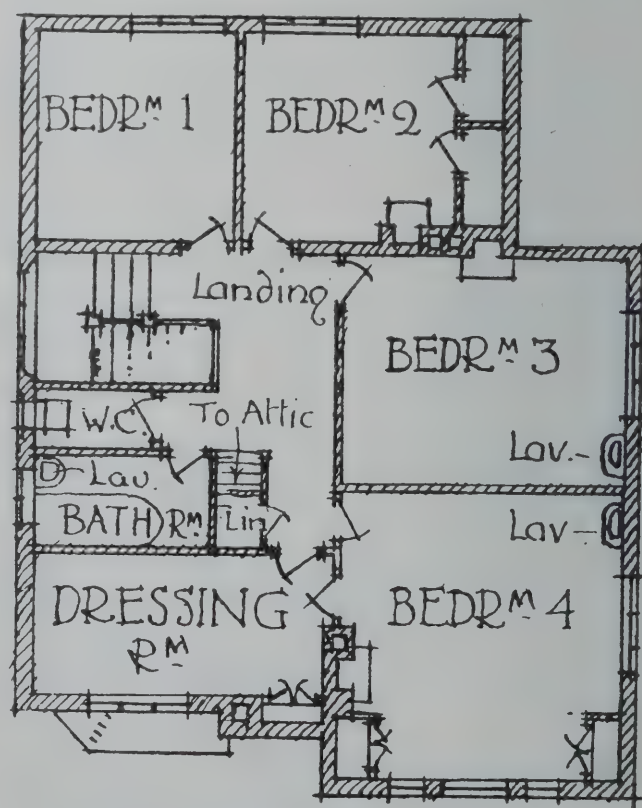
House at Walmer, Kent

A feature of this house is that there is no outside woodwork to be painted. All windows are of metal, with tiled sills, and outside doors are of oak. The overhanging upper storey is supported on two small steel joists, which are enclosed in concrete and faced with roofing tiles. Cavity walls were used, roughcasted externally.

On the ground floor, the accommodation consists of dining room and drawing room (connected by folding doors), study, kitchen, scullery and offices. The kitchen has a service hatch into the dining room, and there is a shower

bath in the lavatory. Five bedrooms and a bathroom occupy the first floor, and there are stairs up to an attic.

The composition flooring to living rooms, bedrooms and staircase was supplied by Mr. J. F. Ebner, the sanitary fittings being obtained from Messrs. Alfred Goslett & Co., Ltd., of Charing Cross Road, and the metal windows from Hope & Sons, Ltd. Messrs. A. W. Thompson & Son, of Deal, were the builders and Mr. Gordon Allen the architect.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



DESIGN FOR A SOCIAL HALL. GORDON ALLEN, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

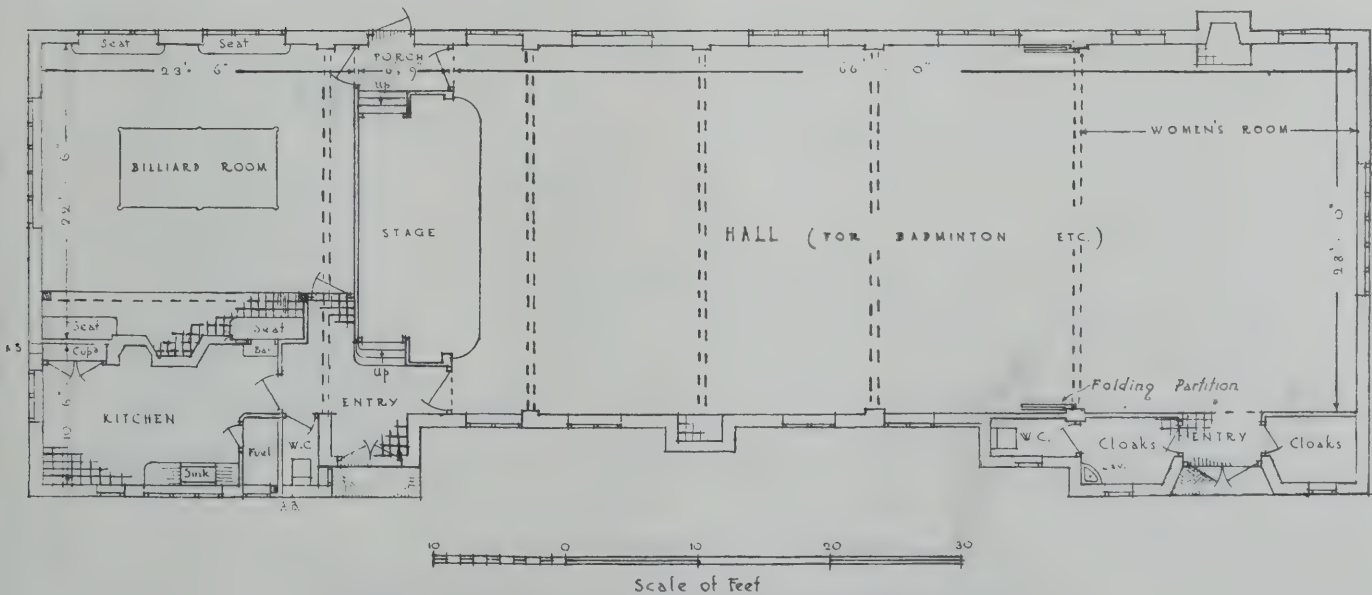
A Social Hall

This building will probably house the varied activities of a village club, and the main hall has a stage so that it can be used for lectures and concerts as well as for dancing and badminton. A billiard room has been provided in addition, and there is a kitchen, so that refreshments can be supplied. The hall can, if desired, be divided by means

of folding doors into two unequal parts, and these can be entered separately. There is also a certain amount of cloak and lavatory accommodation. As a precaution in case of fire, three exits have been arranged in different parts of the building.

Brick will be used for the walls and plain, sandfaced tiles for the roof, the windows being wood casements painted white. Mr. Gordon Allen was the architect.

PLAN OF SOCIAL HALL



DESIGN FOR A SOCIAL HALL. GORDON ALLEN, F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

R.I.B.A. Meeting.

The Condition of the Building Industry. With Especial Regard to the Shortage of Skilled Labour and the Increased Cost of Building Work. (Continued from p. 447.)

By Herbert A. Welch, F.R.I.B.A.

We will now pass on to consider the main causes for the difficulties and dissatisfaction within the industry, and at the same time examine a few suggested remedies. These difficulties may comprehensively be grouped under five heads:—

1. Shortage of Skilled Labour.
2. Casual Nature of Employment.
3. Wet Time.
4. Output.
5. High Costs.

1. The marked shortage of skilled labour has manifested itself mainly since the war—it has, however, been going on since at least 1901—and is at once the direct or indirect cause of many of the other difficulties in the industry. It has caused considerable inconvenience to the building public, who have in consequence been unable to count upon the normal progress of building operations. This has resulted, on the one hand, in the postponement of work which might have been undertaken had the industry been better able to tackle it, and, on the other hand, where the speedy erection of business premises has been of vital importance, the ensuing delay caused by protracted building operations has resulted in serious loss of interest upon capital, as well as loss of prospective revenue from the proposed undertaking. The delay caused in making good the shortage of houses is so well known generally that I need not here dilate upon it nor upon its consequent bad effect upon social conditions.

The table shows a decrease in the various crafts as follows:

	Decrease.	About per cent.
Bricklayers	28,558	24
Masons	42,289	61
Carpenters and Joiners ..	64,735	24
Plasterers	11,500	34
Painters and Decorators ..	5,959	4
Plumbers	15,805	24

These figures appear to indicate that with a decline of 61 per cent. masonry is a comparatively dying craft. This is probably true only so far as the provinces are concerned. Every observant traveller has during recent years noticed—with feelings of regret—that the use of bricks, roughcast and similar materials, have to a large extent taken the place of stone in many of the districts where hitherto building in stone—at least so far as the external walls were concerned—had been a tradition. The character of these districts is suffering accordingly, and architects might well consider on these two grounds the desirability of making every effort towards a rebirth of this craft. In London it is probable that stone is as much in use as previously.

The plastering craft, with a decrease of 11,500 operatives—representing an average of 34 per cent.—is to-day clearly much below economic strength. Shortage in this craft is having a detrimental effect upon the industry generally by delaying normal progress not only so far as plastering work is concerned, but by the resultant delays and disorganisation which inevitably affect the other trades following in its wake. It would appear that this craft is badly in need of additional apprentices with a view to increasing the number of operatives. In the meantime the industry would be helped if as a temporary measure—say, for one year—longer hours were worked in this craft. It behoves the responsible parties to use every effort to bring the craft up to the requisite standard on at least two grounds (a) that until normal progress can be made with this section of the work joiners, painters, plumbers and general finishing crafts must inevitably suffer inconvenience and ultimately a measure of unemployment; (b) that if no other remedy is forthcoming in due course the market demand for the commodity will be met by the development in various forms

of substitutes both in men and materials, some of which are already making their presence felt.

The bricklaying, carpentering and plumbing crafts show a decline of 25 and 24 per cent. respectively. The effect of the shortage is most marked in the bricklaying craft, which operates detrimentally in the same manner, as I have endeavoured to indicate in regard to plastering, but to a greater degree, inasmuch as this craft operates in the *earliest* stages of building work and the progress of a greater number of “following” crafts is thereby affected.

In addition, there is another aspect of this question of shortage which must be noted. A reference to the age groups in Table I goes to show that, side by side with a decrease of 83,226 skilled workers in the industry between the years 1911 and 1921, there appears during the same period an increase of 7,146 (about 23 per cent.) in the number of skilled workers over the age of 64 years. From the figures above quoted and from those included under the age group, 55 to 64 years, there emerges one very clear indication: that wastage during the next five to ten years must inevitably be high.

Where the supply of prospective labour is short the principal reasons given why young men do not enter the industry are stated to be as follows:

1. The casual nature of employment.
2. The comparatively low level of *net* wages (having regard to time lost during the year owing to the casual nature of employment, insecurity of tenure, “wet time,” and other causes.
3. The small increase of wages of skilled men over the wages paid to unskilled workers, and to the relatively high wages obtainable by unskilled boys in what might be termed “blind alley” occupations.
4. National Unemployment Pay for persons under 21 years of age.
5. The supposed social inferiority of workers in manual trades generally. (This is accentuated by the tendency of elementary school masters to encourage boys to enter clerical occupations with a view to indicate the high social standard of the school.)

All of these objections can with co-operation and determination be mitigated or overcome.

In an attempt to discover the most satisfactory solution to the problem of shortage, with which is closely allied the general improvement of conditions within the industry, five possible methods of entry into the industry might be examined.

1. Apprenticeship to a building trade employer.
2. Tuition in a trade school, including indentures.
3. Over age apprenticeship.
4. Promotion from labourers.
5. Dilution.

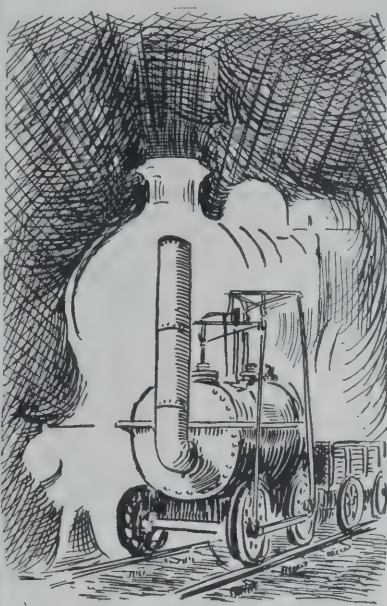
Of these five methods, Nos. 1 and 2 appear to offer the most satisfactory means whereby the shortage can be overtaken.

From the examination of much data I have formed the opinion that hitherto the system of apprenticeship has not been developed to nearly its full extent. The fullest possible development of the apprenticeship system, together with that of training in technical schools, is both urgent and vital if the existing shortage is to be supplemented by bringing into the industry the right type of young man.

In order to increase the number of apprentices with a view to overtaking the existing shortage of labour, it would I think, be well to consider—at least for a stated period of, say, 5 years—(a) The advisability of amending the existing rules in order that individual firms might take an unlimited number of apprentices, provided the agreed ratio of apprentices to journeymen (1 to 7) was not thereby exceeded; (b) That the Employers’ Federation should bring to the notice of its members in particular and to the industry in general the vital necessity of encouraging the apprenticeship system

BRITAIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORLD





RAILWAYS.

THE recent Railway Centenary celebrated in this Country should serve as a reminder of one of the most valuable contributions to World Progress ever made by any individual Nation. * * *

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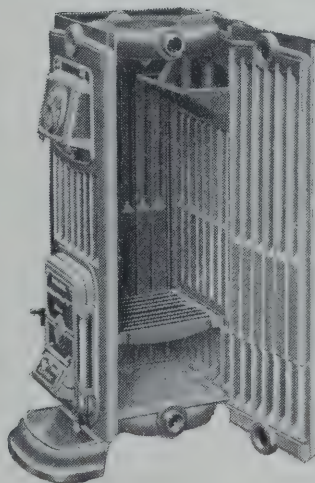
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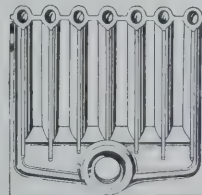
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by urging master builders to train a greater number of young men in the various crafts, in particular those crafts in which from time to time the shortage of skilled workers is most marked; (c) That the notice of the Elementary School Authorities be drawn to the prospects in the industry for young lads when nearing the age for leaving school. In this direction stimulus might be provided if suitable propaganda work were undertaken in important centres of population; (d) That greater encouragement be given to apprentices to supplement the knowledge gained in the workshops and on the jobs by attendance at technical schools, at least on certain evenings each week, and if possible one whole day a week during, say, the three or four years of their apprenticeship. It is generally acknowledged that operatives who have received technical school training in addition to working in the shops and on the job become far better fitted ultimately to occupy the positions of foremen, clerks of works and master builders. To this end added encouragement would be given if the Federations of Employers and Employees could see their way to grant a suitable sum for prizes and scholarships to students at recognised schools.

(3) Over age apprenticeship has, I believe, had some measure of consideration as a temporary means of providing additional craftsmen. By this method the prospective craftsman would be bound under a form of indenture providing for a minimum period of three years training. Of this period it appears to be advisable that one year at least should be spent in a trade school, where a curriculum suited to this special section should be applied. Owing to the comparatively high age—say 19–25 years—for the commencement of such indentures, some system of payment by grant would be necessary, and this might involve a difficulty not easy to overcome, especially in view of the comparatively small numbers of craftsmen likely to be produced by such an arrangement.

(4) and (5). Promotion from Labourers and Dilution.—This is a scheme for increasing the number of craftsmen in the industry by introducing into the ranks of the skilled craftsmen a number of semi-skilled men, thereby creating additional numbers of so-called skilled workers, many of whom are not necessarily capable of executing a high standard of work. Its advocates hold that there are many operations in building works which can successfully be carried through after comparatively short training. Its opponents state that to employ upon building works men who are not well skilled in their job tends seriously to reduce not only the level of output, but also the general quality of the work. If such a scheme were adopted on anything approaching a big scale I fear that the dilutees would fail to get general employment on account (a) of the established tradition for a high standard of workmanship in the industry, (b) the disinclination of architects to produce a specification of works on a lower standard than that to which they are accustomed, and (c) the comparative failure of the scheme of dilution for ex-Service men put into operation a few years ago.

(2) CASUAL NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT.

I think it will generally be agreed that, broadly speaking, a "casual labour" industry is an unhealthy and troubled industry. This was admittedly so in the past when, in relation to existing standards, the workers possessed a lower education equipment and were less organised than at present.

One or two suggestions occur to me as being perhaps worthy of consideration:

(a) Could not a building trade employment bureau be set up in all large centres of population whereby employers seeking men and operatives seeking employment could obtain mutual advantages? Surely it would be more economically sound if employers or their foremen on the one hand were able to notify such an establishment of their labour wants, say, two or three days ahead, with a view to avoiding delay and to secure the more satisfactory dovetailing together of the work of the various trades! On the other hand, the operatives should welcome the opportunity thereby offered in being enabled to discover at a

central bureau—especially managed by the industry for the industry—the employers who at that time are wanting men, and so save time and avoid the disappointment so often now in store when walking from job to job in search of work. I gather that the headquarters of the men's unions have attempted some such arrangement, but owing to various causes the fullest use is not made of such arrangements as exist, nor do the existing arrangements appear to be capable of development along lines which are likely to be used to the full by the parties concerned. Existing labour bureaux are not popular with either masters or men, and owing to their general nature could never impress the industry with the same degree of confidence as its own show.

(b) It has become a custom with the public to view with favour the early spring for carrying out all kinds of decorations and jobbing work. These seasonal operations need adjustments in the interests alike of the public and the industry.

(3) WET TIME.

For many years this has been a vexed question and the cause of constant irritation within the industry. On the face of it, it certainly seems a hardship that a section of the community should be penalised because of the misbehaviour of the weather. On the other hand, the "dole" has made evident to all clear thinking people the ill effect upon human nature of substantial payment for no work. Every good foreman so arranges the execution of his job that there is in reserve under cover certain work which is done at odd times by men who would otherwise be adversely affected by wet weather. Would not a temporary covering over the building at once reduce wet time to a minimum, increase output generally, and lessen costs by reducing the time needed to carry out a job? I know it is not an easy operation, but I feel that it can be done if tackled with determination.

(4) OUTPUT.

In the widest interest of the industry and the community it is clearly the duty of all parties concerned to increase output to the fullest extent consistent with good workmanship. Later I shall call attention to figures which appear clearly to indicate that whereas the operatives in 1925 are earning 93 to 94 per cent. more wages than in 1914, bricklayers and their labourers are actually taking longer to build a rod of brickwork. It may be that there are contributory causes other than labour to this state of affairs. Be that as it may, the present position is clearly unhealthy and uneconomic and cannot be allowed to continue. Personally I have always had in mind that men in whatever station of life should be paid in reasonable proportion to their productivity. There is something clearly wrong with the psychology of the building trade operatives if they cannot be induced by higher wages and better conditions to give in return an increase of output. Nothing short of this can be accepted. I realise, however, that to reach maximum output maximum effort must be made by both sides working in unison. Every facility as well as reward must be given to accomplish this. There must be ample materials on the job—for obvious reasons a scarcity of materials tends to slacken progress. Architects also can help considerably to this end. I doubt if we architects realise to what extent the early delivery of our $\frac{1}{2}$ in. and F.S. details, the early placing of orders for specialists' and sub-contractors' goods and other matters in our control, help the builder and in turn the operative in the economic working of the job. In addition, the operations of the various trades must by foresight be made to dovetail into each other on the job without causing waste of time and a few days' "stand off."

I gather too, that careful consideration—long overdue—is being given to such matters as economical and easily adjusted scaffolding, the easier and more speedy transmission of materials to the various positions where needed on the job. We are also giving consideration to the provision of some kind of portable bench or table the top of which would be about 2 feet 6 inches above the level of the ground or floor, upon which bricks, mortar and like



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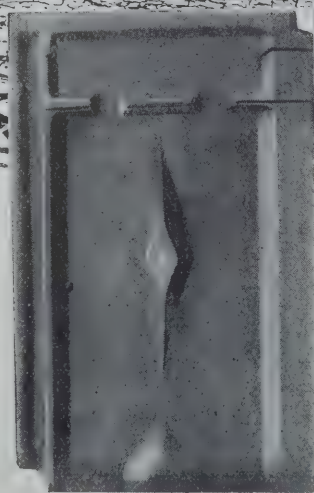
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materials could be placed and so save the effort and time expended in many cases by the constant bending of the operatives to floor level to pick up materials which should come more easily to hand. Did time permit I would wish to pursue this matter further, but I must pass on to

(5) THE INCREASED COST OF BUILDING WORK.

The main factors in the cost of building work may be set down broadly under four heads:—(1) wages, (2) materials, (3) overhead charges, (4) profit, in the approximate ratio of 48 per cent., 35 per cent., 7 per cent. and 10 per cent. respectively. These figures will, of course, vary in each separate job.

The total increase in the cost of building work to-day compared with 1914 is approximately 105 to 110 per cent.

The wages of operatives in the various sub-contracting trades may be said to have increased at about the same rate. The general increase over the whole of the trades would therefore be about 93 to 94 per cent. These figures, however, do not indicate the total increase of wages on any particular job, which must clearly be governed by the proportion of labourers, painters, and scaffolders (whose percentage of increase is the highest) in relation to the other workers engaged upon the job.

I have, therefore, by a series of calculations, endeavoured to arrive at an equitable figure which shows the increase to be approximately 100 per cent. in the cost of materials.

We must now proceed a further stage in order to ascertain the effect of these increases on the cost of work. The table following gives figures compiled by a firm of quantity surveyors showing in detail the approximate prime cost of materials and labour required in a rod of common brickwork in cement in 1914 and 1925:—

1914	£	s.	d.
4,300 Flettons at 28/- per man	6	0	5
Unloading, etc., and stacking—labourer, 6 hours at 8d. ..	0	4	0
3 yards sand at 7/-	1	1	0
1 ton cement at 48/6	2	8	6
Labour mixing—10 hours at 8d.	0	6	8
Scaffolding—Use and waste	0	1	3
Labour, 7 hours	0	5	3
Bricklayer, 43 hours at 11½d.	2	1	2½
Labourer, 26 hours at 8d.	0	17	4
1914—Prime Cost	£13	5	7½
1925	£	s.	d.
4,300 Flettons at 60/-	12	18	0
Unloading, etc., 7 hours at 1¼	0	9	7½
3 yards sand at 13/-	1	19	0
1 ton cement at 60/9	3	0	0
Labour mixing—13 hours at 1¼	0	17	10½
Scaffolding—Use and waste	0	2	6
Labour, 9 hours at 1½	0	13	1½
Bricklayer, 57 hours at 1/9½	5	2	1½
Labourer, 34 hours at 1¼	2	6	9
1925—Prime Cost	£27	9	9

It will be seen that in 1914 the prime cost was £13 5s. 7½d., of which amount £3 14s. 5½d. represented wages. In 1925 the prime cost for similar work is shown to have risen to £27 9s. 9d. and £9 9s. 6d. respectively, thereby showing that labour costs have increased 2½ times and materials rather less than twice.

The table discloses a further matter of interest, viz., that whereas in 1914 the time allowed in these costs for a bricklayer was 43 hours and for labourers (including scaffolders) 49 hours; in 1925 the time allowed for bricklayers has increased to 57 hours and labourers to 63 hours.

From the above table it will be further noted that if the bricklayers and labourers would build brickwork in 1925 at the same rate as in 1914 there would be a saving of £2 4s. 6d. per rod—or 24 per cent.—at to-day's wages, and in addition profit, overhead charges, etc., would accordingly be reduced. This seems to be a clear indication that there are at least some men in the boat who are not pulling their weight. I trust that the bricklayers and labourers will not feel aggrieved if I appear to have selected them as particular transgressors. They have been mentioned incidentally because the price of a rod of brickwork readily

lends itself to a simple and direct indication of the position in a vital section of the industry.

I would wish to develop further the question of costs, especially with regard to other contributory factors, but time will not permit.

I fear I have already occupied too much of your time. If, however, our meeting here to-night results—as I trust it might—in our giving renewed thought to a subject of vital interest to us all and to the public, perhaps in due course you will be rewarded for your patience and I might be forgiven for the length of time I have held your attention.

Correspondence.

Architects and Registration.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—The point raised by your "Anxious" correspondent is not a new one. As I see it, the object of registering the members of any profession is not that of compelling the public to employ only registered practitioners, but for the purpose, among other things, of enabling the public to distinguish between the qualified and the unqualified practitioner. If in the face of this safeguard anyone prefers to employ an unregistered person there is nothing to prevent them doing so, but it would be at their own risk. If the chances of the architectural profession securing such concessions as your correspondent refers to are slight, that is not a valid argument against attempting to attain them.

Yours faithfully,

C. MCARTHUR BUTLER,
Secretary, R.I.B.A. Registration
Committee.

December 11, 1925.

Careless Statements.

Mr. Angus Watson stated at a meeting of the Newcastle City Mission that there were nearly 70,000 citizens of Newcastle living in homes of one room. He now writes to a Newcastle paper characterising this as a "curious error," as the number of one-roomed houses shown by the 1921 census of England and Wales is 6,900, with a total of 21,000 people living in them! Mr. Angus Watson blandly remarks that of course he was thinking of the total overcrowding returns which showed that 33 per cent. of the inhabitants of Newcastle, or 88,271, were living in inadequate accommodation. We think that such gross misstatements are more than "curious," and might always be described as being "criminal." They tend to engender bitter feeling among the ignorant who hear the statement but not the correction. Do we not remember that one of the contributory causes of the Indian Mutiny was the legend that cartridges were greased with fat in order to force the users to lose their caste.

TRURO.—Sanction has been given for a further loan of £4,000 in connection with the conversion of market buildings into a civic hall.—The Corporation are considering the erection of a store on the Town Quay at a cost of £4,000, to be rented by Coast Lines, Ltd.—The Anglo-American Oil Co. have prepared plans for the proposed depot at the junction of Station Hill and Treyew Road.

WANDSWORTH.—It is proposed to use a site in Nimrod Road, Streatham, for the erection of a babies' hospital.—The Libraries Committee have decided to provide steel fittings at the new library at Earlsfield at a cost of £1,500.

SWANSEA.—The Corporation are negotiating with Messrs. William Airey & Son, Ltd., for the erection of a further 150 houses on the Maesteg site.—The Borough Architect is to prepare bills of quantities in connection with the first block of new buildings for the technical college.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the proposals for improving the Municipal Boys' School and erecting a new school for girls.—Six acres have been purchased at Cadle for a new elementary school.—Tenders are to be obtained for the repairs to the roof of the central police buildings.—Mr. John Watkins is to erect 13 houses on the quarry site in Peter Street.—Plans passed: 26 houses, Tymawr and other roads for Mr. John Pye; 9 houses, Neath Road, Morriston, for Messrs. Walters & Johns; 4 houses, Danygraig Road, for Mr. A. E. Wright; church and hall, Clarence Terrace, for Swansea Parochial Church Council.

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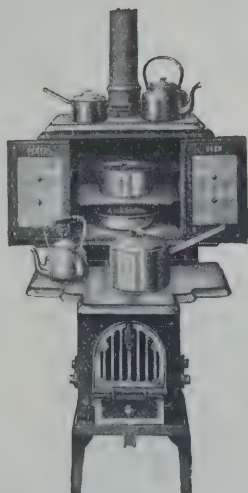
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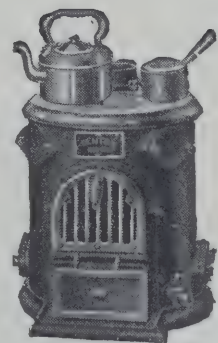
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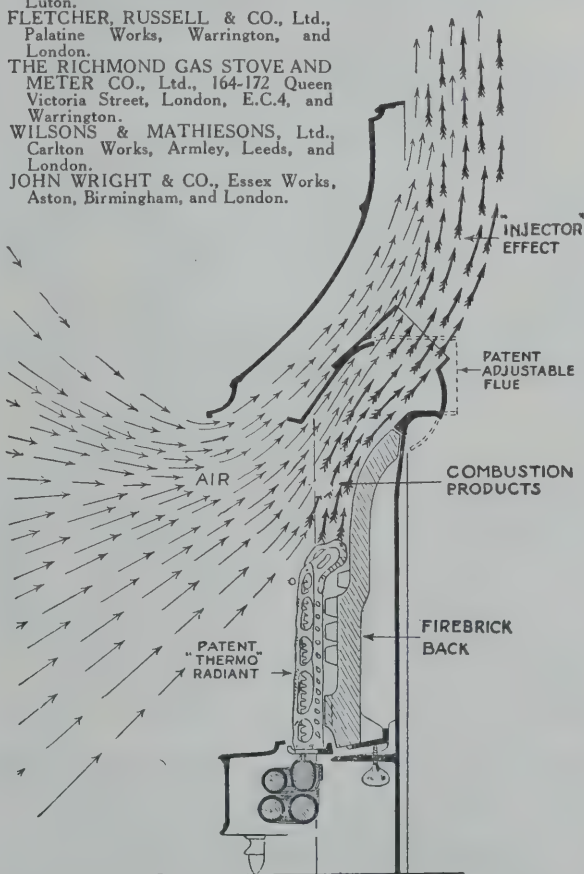
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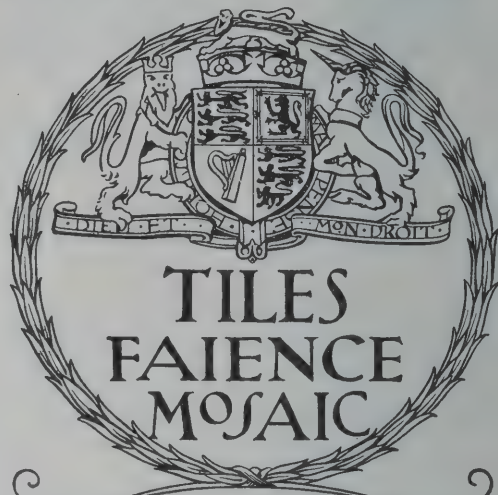
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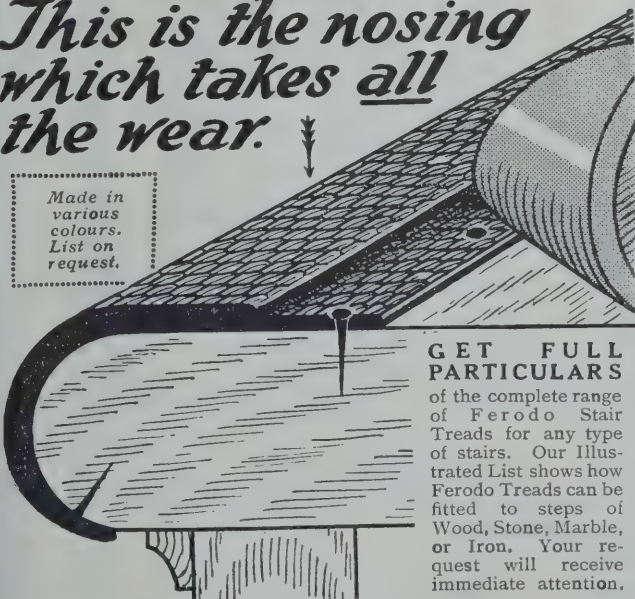
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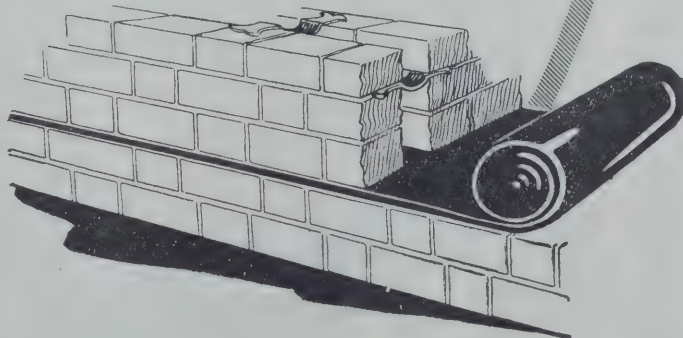
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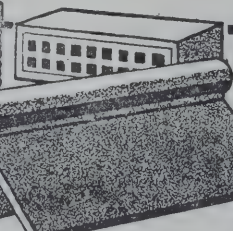
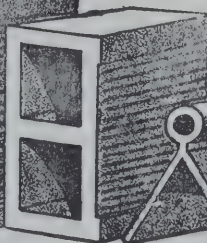
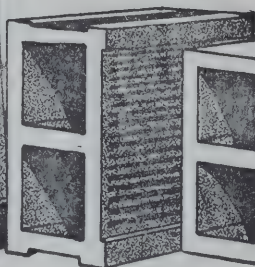
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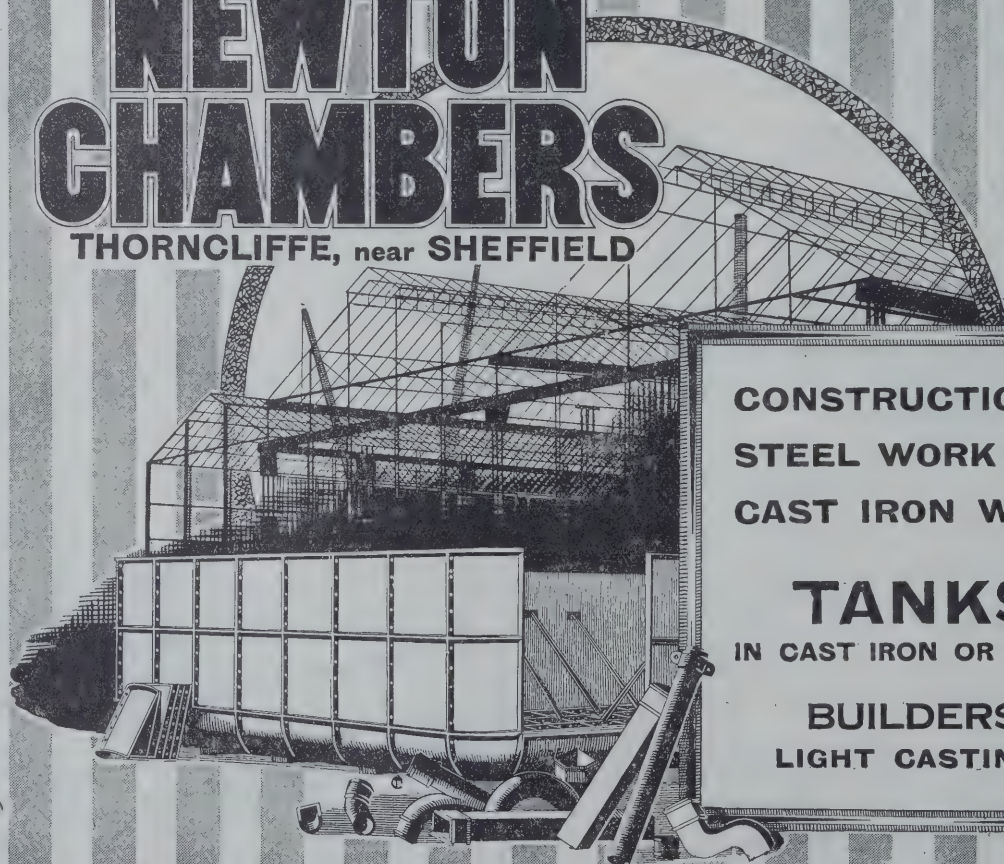
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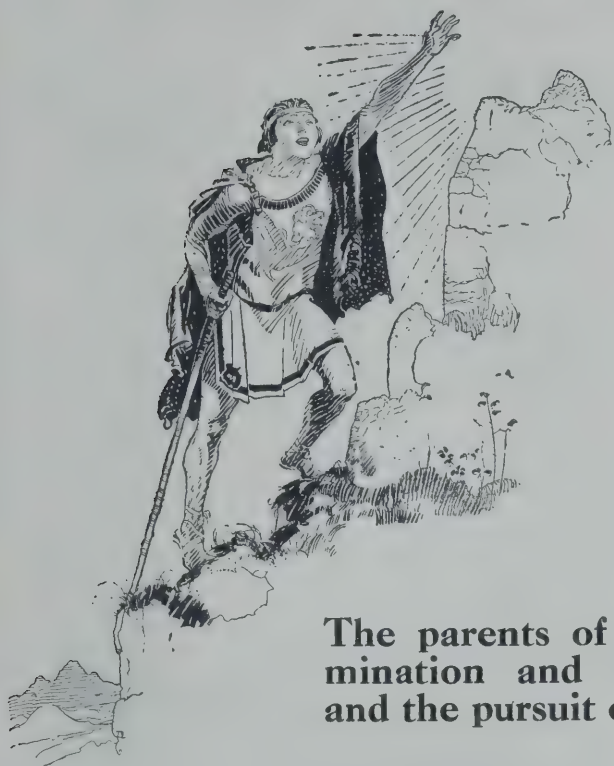


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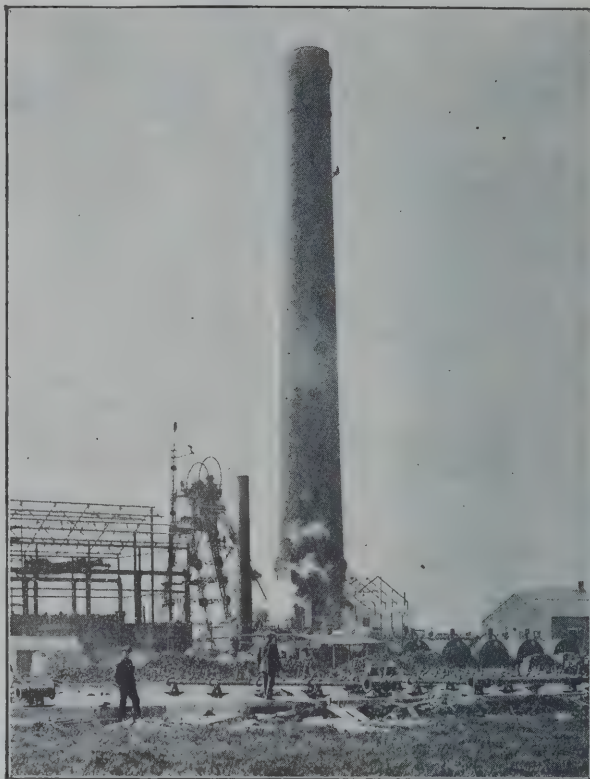
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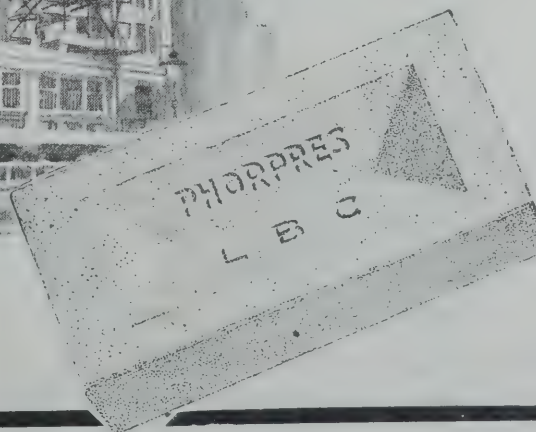
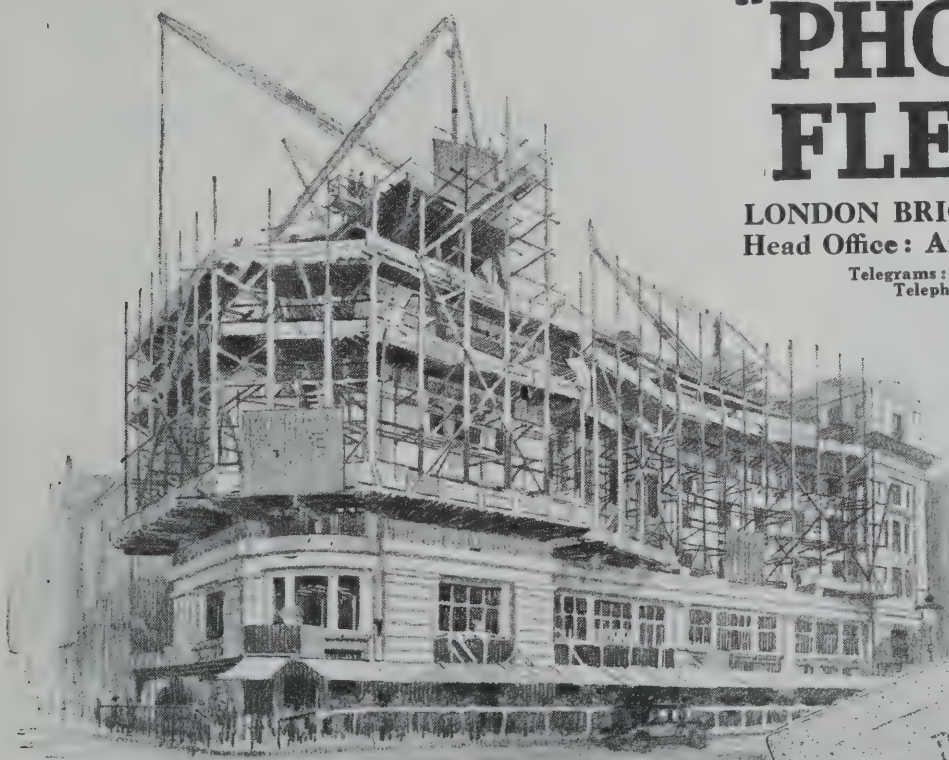
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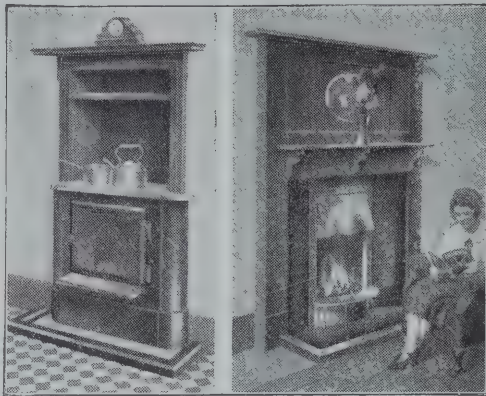
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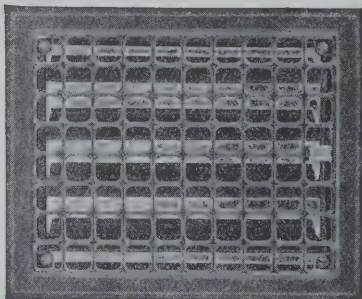
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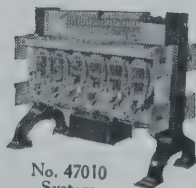
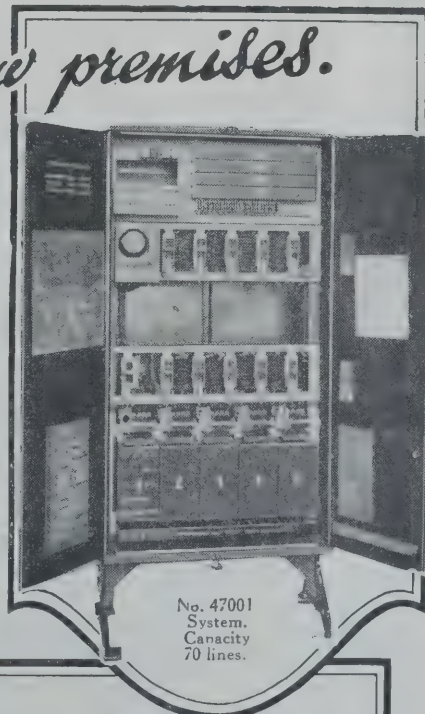
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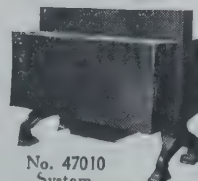
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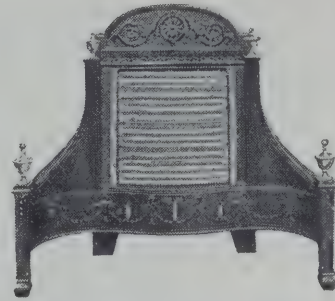
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. As great disappointment is frequently expressed at the non-appearance of Contracts Open, Tenders, &c., it is particularly requested that information of this description be forwarded to the Office, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C., not later than 2 P.M. on Wednesdays.

CONTRACTS OPEN.

BAKEWELL.—January 18.—For erection of an isolation hospital on Monyash Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire, for the Haddon District Hospital Committee. The work consists of administration block, pavilion ward, observation ward, laundry, sewerage, etc. Mr. C. Flint, L.R.I.B.A., The Quadrant, Buxton. Deposit £2 2s.

BEBINGTON AND BROMBOROUGH.—January 4.—For the erection of 72 houses at Bebington and 28 houses Bromborough, all of the subsidy size for the U.D.C. The Surveyor, Council Offices, Bebington. Deposit £2 2s.

BILSTON.—January 14.—For the construction of a pumping station at The Bratch, Wombourn, Staffordshire, adjoining the Council's existing pumping station, for the Bilston U.D.C. The work includes the building of an engine-house, workshop, office, stores, etc., in brickwork and concrete, with roads and drainage, and attendance upon the erection of pumping machinery and accessories. Mr. R. A. Webster, resident engineer, Town Hall, Bilston. Deposit £3.

BOURNEMOUTH.—January 26.—For the superstructure contract of the New Pavilion in the Pleasure Gardens, Bournemouth. Mr. Herbert Ashling, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Bournemouth, after December 30. Deposit £2 2s.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT.—January 5.—For the erection of 94 houses and incidental works for the Council. Mr. George T. Lynam, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Burton-upon-Trent.

BUXTON.—December 31.—The Corporation invites whole tenders for all trades in the erection of 20 parlour-type houses and 20 non-parlour houses on Heath Grove estate, Buxton. Mr. F. Langley, borough engineer and architect, Town Hall, Buxton. Deposit £4 4s.

CANNOCK.—January 4.—For the erection of 12 pairs of non-parlour type houses, for the Cannock R.D.C. Mr. H. M. Whitehead, Engineer's Office, Penkridge, Stafford.

CARNFORTH.—January 4.—For the erection of 20 non-parlour type of houses to be built in pairs; also separate tenders for the construction of sewer and road works, for the U.D.C. Mr. F. Holt, 36 Lancaster Road, Carnforth.

CHELTENHAM.—January 2.—For carrying out certain alterations to the school buildings of St. James' Schools, Great Norwood Street. Mr. L. W. Barnard, 14 Promenade, Cheltenham. Deposit £1 1s.

DARLINGTON.—January 6.—For the erection of 50 houses in pairs and blocks of four houses for the Corporation. The Borough Surveyor, Town Hall, Darlington. Deposit £1 1s.

DURHAM.—January 18.—For the erection of an extension to St. Hild's College, Durham. Messrs. Joseph Potts & Son, 57 John Street, Sunderland. Deposit £3 3s.

EDINBURGH.—January 6.—For erection in brick, concrete or other approved alternative of 500 two and three apartment tenement houses at the sites stated below, for the Corporation. The Director of Housing, City Chambers, 329 High Street, Edinburgh. Deposit £2 2s. List of sites and number of houses : (1) Abercorn, 144 houses extendable to 184 houses; (2) Easter Road, 36 ditto 60; (3) Lochend Road, 102 ditto 102; (4) Saughtonhall, 100 ditto 100; (5) Wardie, 100 ditto 100.

GOSFORTH.—January 30.—For erection of 84 semi-detached houses for the U.D.C. Mr. G. Nelson, A.M.I.C.E., engineer and surveyor, Council Chambers, Gosforth.

HAM, RICHMOND.—January 4.—For the erection of 16 terrace houses and 8 semi-detached houses for the Council. Builders are invited to submit plans, specifications and tenders for building the parlour-type of house. The Surveyor, Council Offices, Lockwood Road, Ham, Richmond, Surrey.

HERNE BAY.—December 30.—For forming isolation accommodation at St. Anne's Home, Herne Bay, for the M.A.B., Mr. T. Cooper, M.I.C.E., M.I.M.E., engineer-in-chief. Office of the Board, Victoria Embankment, E.C.4. Deposit £1.

HIGH LITTLETON.—January 4.—For the erection of eight houses for the Council, in stone, brick or otherwise. Mr. Hawker, Council Houses, Temple Cloud, Bristol. Deposit £2 2s.

KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.—January 7 to 25.—For erecting additions to the Kingston Grammar School, for the Education Committee of the Corporation, Messrs. Jarvis & Richards, F.F.R.I.B.A., 60 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W.1. Deposit £2 2s. Mr. Alan Paull, Chartered Surveyor, 12 New Court, Carey Street, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2.

LEEDS.—January 12.—For proposed Institute for the Blind, Roundhay Road, for the Education Committee. The Education Offices (Architect's Section), Calverley Street, Leeds. Deposit £2 2s.

LEMINGTON.—January 4.—For erection of a pavilion on the Lemington Recreation Ground, for the Newburn U.D.C. The Surveyor's Office, Newburn.

LINCOLN.—January 6.—For erection of 28 non-parlour type houses, for the Housing, etc., Committee. Deposit 10s. 6d. Mr. S. C. Baggott, city engineer and surveyor, Corporation Offices, Lincoln.

LONDON (SHOREDITCH).—January 25.—For erection of a block of flats containing 104 tenements at Wenlock Road, City Road, N., in the Borough of Shoreditch, for the Corporation of London. The City Engineer, Guildhall, E.C.2. Deposit £2 2s.

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STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—December 31.—For the erection of 106 semi-detached houses for the Corporation. Messrs. Hays & Gray, Wingate, Co. Durham.

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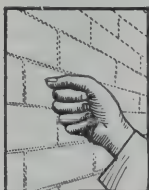
WARRINGTON.—January 4.—For erection and completion of 58 houses for the Housing Committee. The Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Warrington, on and after December 14. Deposit £2 2s.

WOOLWICH.—January 14.—For the erection of alternatively 100 or 200 houses for the Council. Application on and after December 28 to Mr. John Sutcliffe, A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Woolwich. Deposit £3 3s.

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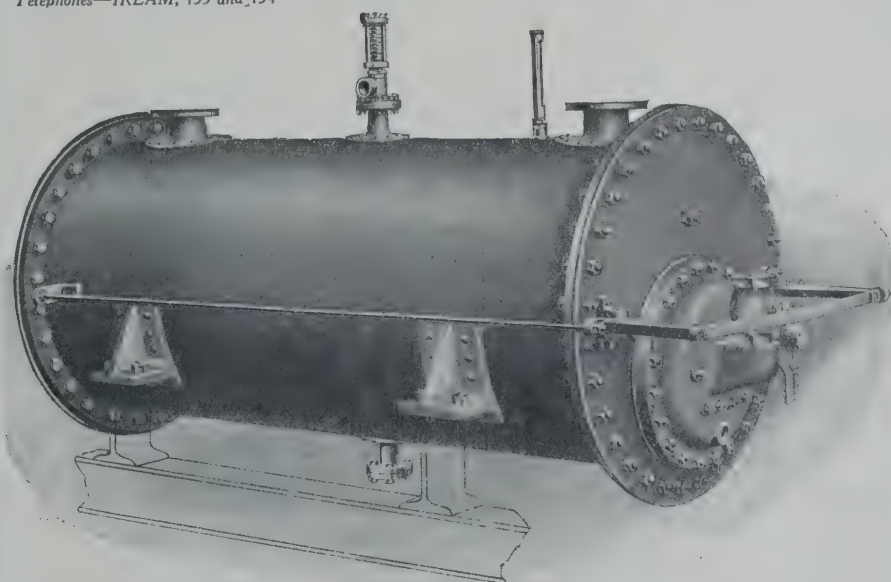
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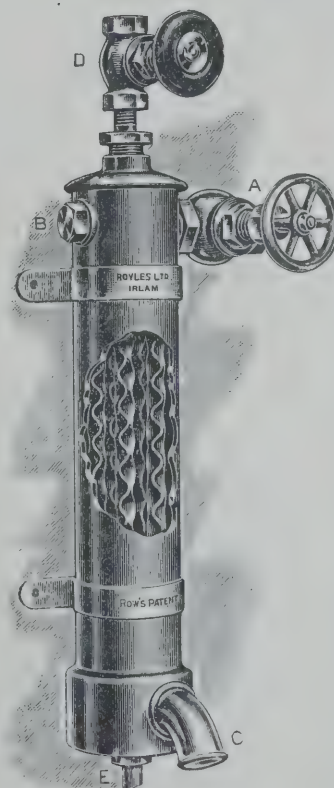


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JOINER—Continued.

		Groove or Bead		Staff Bead or Nosing	Moulding per lin.	Rounded Heel or Hollow or Plugging
Labour only to		1d.	1d.	1d.	1d.	2d.
Barrel Bolts	1/0	2/0	1/0	2/0	4/0	1/8
Flush Bolts	2/0	1/0	2/0	4/0	1/8	1/0
Sash Fasteners	1/0	2/0	4/0	1/8	1/0	1/0
Labour and Screws only Fixing						
Locks and Furniture						
Rim Mortice	2/0	4/0	1/8	1/0	1/0	1/0
Cupboard Stays	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0
Casement Fasteners	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0
Grip Handles	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0
Spring Catches	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0	1/0

PLUMBER.

		Per cwt.		Flashings and Gutters	
Milled lead and laying		59/6	66/6	69/6	
Copper Roofing 4d.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Per Foot Run		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Soldered Angle		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Welded Joint 4d.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Boased Ends to Rolls 6d.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Each		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Cesspools 5/6		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Soldered Dots 2/0		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Per Foot Run		2/0	2/0	2/0	
1in.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
1 1/2in.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
2in.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
2 1/2in.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
3in.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
4in.		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Lead service		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Lead waste		2/0	2/0	2/0	
Lead soil		2/0	2/0	2/0	

		Each		Per Foot Run	
Rag joints		2/3	2/6	2/9	3/0
Branch joints		2/6	2/9	3/0	3/3
Indiarubber joints		—	—	—	—
Stop ends		9d.	1/0	1/3	1/0
Bends		—	—	—	—
Beaded ends		—	—	—	—
Single tacks		—	—	—	—
Double tacks		—	—	—	—
Brass sleeves		—	—	—	—
Lead traps		—	—	—	—
Butter screws		3/2	3/9	4/10	6/7
Bib cocks		7/0	9/6	13/6	—
Stop cocks		9/9	12/3	17/8	30/0
Ball cocks		3/0	10/0	16/6	30/0
Wire balloons		—	—	—	—
Iron (L.C.C.) pipes		—	—	—	—
Soli, vent, waste and anti-syphon pipes, coated lead		—	—	—	—
Caulked joints		—	—	—	—
Extra for bends		—	—	—	—
Extra for junctions		—	—	—	—

SLATER AND TILER.

		Per Square	
ROOFING		Counters	Ladies
Welsh slating laid to a 2 1/2 in. lap with two composition nails to each slate		80/0	75/0
Add for every 1/2 in. additional lap		2/3	3/7
Add for copper nails		2/8	3/4
Best selected green Westmorland slates laid to a 3 in. lap. with copper nails		110/0	—
Asbestos slates laid to a 3 in. lap. with compo. nails		41/0	—
Asbestos corrugated roofing with galv. screws and limpet washers		60/6	—
Plain red roof tiling 4 in. gauge, each tile in every fourth course nailed with two galv. iron nails		70/6	—
Add for vertical work		2/6	—
Add for circular on face in elevation		25 %	—
Add for circular on plan, according to radius		40 %	—
Add for circular on face in elevation and also on plan according to radius		60 %	—
Outtings—Eaves		—	—
Edges and abutments		—	—
Ridge tiling		2/0	—
Fixing soakers		7d. per dozen	—

SMITH AND FOUNDER.

		Per Cwt.	
Rolled steel joists		Up to 1st Floor	Above 1st Floor
Compound girders		15/6	17/6
Stanchions		18/6	20/6
Cast-iron columns		20/6	22/6
		16/6	18/6
Steel roof trusses		32/6	30/0
Chimney bars		36/0	34/0
Tie rods and ring bolts		47/6	45/0
Bolts and nuts		45/0	40/0
Handrail and balusters		55/0	50/0
Steel reinforcing bars bent and fixed		22/0	21/6
Rain-water Goods		2in.	3in.
Pipes fixed with pipe nails		11d.	1/1
Bends or shoes, each		1/6	2/6
Junctions, each		2/3	3/0
Gutters fixed with brackets		4in.	5in.
Outlets and angles		1/2d.	1/8
Stop ends		1/9	2/6

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- 25 ENGLISH DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE, SMALLER HOUSES.—100 plates, including 72 schemes illustrated by perspective views, and over 120 plans, 15/- or \$3.75c. net.
- 26 DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE, TOWN HOUSES.—100 plates illustrated by elevations, perspectives, and reproductions from photographic views, supplemented with over 80 plans, 15/- or \$3.75c. net.
- 27 AMERICAN DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE.—100 plates, including 48 separate schemes, illustrated by perspectives, reproductions of photographic views, and 92 plans, 15/- or \$3.75c. net.
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- 29-31* BUSINESS PREMISES.—The collection consists of 300 plates, divided equally into three portfolios of 100 plates each. No. 29 illustrates 64 separate schemes by perspective and photographic views, with some 32 plans and sections. No. 30* illustrates 37 separate schemes including perspective and photographic views and 26 plans and sections. No. 31 illustrates 33 schemes, with perspectives, photographic views, also 12 plans, 18 elevations, and half-inch details, 9 sections, and 18 interiors. The price of each portfolio is 15/- or \$3.75c. net.
- 32-33* GARDEN ARCHITECTURE.—The collection includes 150 plates, equally divided into two portfolios, of 75 plates each. No. 32 contains 75 plates illustrating pergolas, formal and sunken gardens, garden seats, lily pools, summer houses, terraces, ornamental figures, and 30 fountain designs. No. 33 contains also 75 plates illustrating terrace gardens, summer houses, garden lay-out plans, showing the disposition of the various characteristic features, garden and lily pools, pergolas, loggias, fountains, etc. Price per portfolio, 12/6 or \$3.00c. net.
- 34-35* INTERIOR DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE.—The collection includes 200 plates equally divided into two portfolios of 100 plates each. The contents of each portfolio includes halls, smoking and billiard rooms, dining, drawing and bedrooms, etc. The two portfolios are very representative of the best English work executed of recent date. Price per portfolio, 15/- or \$3.75c. net.
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GAS AND STEAM PIPES.

	Per Foot Run							
	Gas				Steam Tubing			
	1in.	1½in.	2in.	2½in.	3in.	4in.	6in.	8in.
Tubes and all fittings fixed with clips complete ..	10d.	10½d.	1/1	1/4	1/8	2/1	2/5	3/2

PLASTERER.

On Walls and Ceilings	Per Foot Run							
	Narrow				Flush or Staff			
	Per Widths	Per Foot	Super	Arris	Rounded	Angle	Quirk	Bead
Render, float and set in lime and hair ..	2/6	0/5	0/2	0/3	0/1½	0/8		
Do. do. Stripite ..	2/9	0/5½	0/2	0/3	0/1½	0/8		
Do. do. Portland ..	3/7	0/7	0/2½	0/3½	0/2	0/9		
Do. do. Keene's ..	4/0	0/8	0/2½	0/3½	0/2	0/9		
awn lathing ..	1/5	0/3	—	—	—	—		
Metal lathing ..	1/10	0/3½	—	—	—	—		
Freecoding in Portland ..	2/1	0/4½	—	—	—	—		

Per Foot Run	Per lin. Girth	Mitres	Stop Ends
Moulding in plaster ..	0/2	Equal to Value	Equal to 1/3rd of
Do. do. Portland ..	0/3	of 1 foot of	a foot of
Do. do. fibrous ..	0/3	moulding	moulding

Partitions	Per Yard Super.		
	2in.	2½in.	3in.
Concrete slab partition fixed ready for plastering ..	5/0	5/6	6/0

GLAZING.

	Per Foot Super.		
	Up to 10ft.	From 25 to 50ft.	From 50 to 100ft.
Ordinary plate glass glazed ..	4/4	4/9	5/1

Sheet Glass, glazed complete, per foot super.

Sheet Glass		Figured	1in.	Cast Glass		1in. Wired	Metal bar
12oz.	15oz.	Rolled	Rolled	3/4in	1in.	Cast Glass	Patent Glazing
0/8½	0/7½	0/11½	0/9	0/10	0/10½	1/1½	2/2

PAINTER AND DECORATOR.

Washable Distemper	Per Yard Super.			
	Wash and Stop	Once Distemper	Twice Distemper	Stipple
In common colours ..	0/3½	0/5	0/9	0/3
In carmine or ivy green or similar ..	0/3½	0/5½	0/10	0/3
In scarlet, ivy green, or similar ..	0/3½	0/7	1/1	0/3

Add per Yard Super. for the following					
If on Moulded Work	If on Enriched Work	If in Small Panels	If in Medium Panels	If in Large Panels	If on Narrow Widths
100%	300%	0/3	0/2	0/1	0/3

PAINTING.

Plain painting on surface in common colours, per yard super	Knot, Stop and Prime		Paint Coats				Stain Size Varnish Enamel			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Do., on frames each ..	0/8	0/8½	1/5	2/1	2/6	0/6	0/2	0/9	1/0	1/0
Do., on large do., each ..	0/10	0/10	1/8	2/6	3/2	0/10	0/4	1/1	1/5	1/5
Do., on squares, per doz. ..	0/8	1/0	2/0	2/8	3/4	1/0	0/4	1/3	1/3	1/3
Do., on large do., do. ..	1/0	1/6	3/0	1/0	5/0	1/6	0/6	1/10	2/0	2/0
On small pipes or narrow bands, per foot run ..	0/0½	0/0½	0/1	0/1½	0/1½	0/0½	0/0½	0/0½	0/0½	0/0½
On large pipes or do. do. ..	0/1	0/1	0/2	0/3	0/3½	0/0½	0/0½	0/1½	0/3½	0/3½

Add to the above prices for the following per yard super :—
 On Moulded Work. On Enriched Work. In Party Colours. Stippled.
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Polishing	Per Foot Super.	
	Wax	French
	6d.	1/0

PAPERHANGER.

Paperhanging only	Per Piece	
	Lining	Pattern
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On stairs ..	1/10	2/0
On ceilings ..	1/7	2/6

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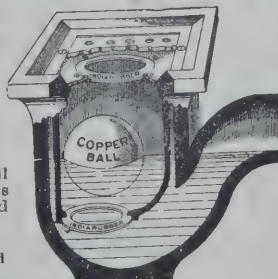
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CLASS OF WORKMEN AND RATE PAYABLE PER HOUR.

DATE OF VARIATION	MECHANIC	PAINTER	LABOURER	NOTES AS TO RATES PAID TO SPECIAL WORKMEN
1914-Aug.	11½d.	9d.	8d.	Granite Mason, Fixing Mason, Spindle Machin't
1916-July	1/0½	10d.	9d.	Four Cutter, ditto
1917-Apr. 25	1/1½	11d.	10d.	
1917-Oct. 30	1/8½	1/0½	11½d.	
1918-Jan. 11	1/8½ + 12½%	1/0½ + 12½%	11½ + 12½%	Plumber previous to 26 May 1923 only
1918-July 27	1/8 + 12½%	1/2½ + 12½%	1/1½ + 12½%	
1919-Feb. 15	1/8	1/8	1/5	Scaffolders, Timberman, Bender and Fixer of Reinforcement
1919-May 2	1/8	1/8	1/5	
1919-Nov. 15	1/11½	1/10½	1/8	
1920-May 1	2/0½	1/11½	1/9	
1920-May 29	2/4	2/8	2/1	
1921-May 10	2/2	2/1	1/11	
1921-July 1	2/2	2/1	1/10	
1921-Aug. 1	2/1	2/0	1/9	
1921-Sept. 1	2/0½	1/11½	1/7½	
1922-Feb. 1	2/0	1/11	1/7	For working in waterboots or cold storage or artificial atmosphere or from boats
1923-April 1	1/10	1/9	1/5	
1923-June 1	1/8	1/7	1/5	
1923-May 26	1/7½	1/6½	1/2½	
1924-Feb. 1	1/8	1/7	1/5	
1924-Aug. 25	1/8½	1/7½	1/5½	
1924-Oct. 25	1/9½	1/8½	1/4½	

All men working on night gangs, add 3d. per hour.

Prices of Building Material in London.

ITEM.	CLASS.	QOSR.	UNTR.
A Antisiphonage	Pipes, iron, 2"	3/1	Per yard
Asbestos	Sheeting	1/8	Ditto
Ditto	Ditto, corrugated	3/4	Ditto
Aluminium	Paint	25/0	Per gallon
B Ballast	Thames	10/0 12/9	Per yard cube
Ditto	Pit	10/0 12/9	delivered
Ball valves	Brass	5/6 7/9	13/4 each
Brick	Broken	11/6	Per yard
Ditto	Hardcore	5/0	cube d/d
Bricks	Blue, wirecuts	145/0	
Ditto	Ditto, pressed	185/0	
Ditto	Firebricks	208/0	Per 1,000
Ditto	Fixing, breeze	80/0	F.O.B. London
Ditto	Flettons	52/3	
Ditto	Reds	110/0	
Ditto	Rubbers	244/0	
Ditto	Stocks	98/6	Delivered
Ditto	White	100/0	F.O.B. London
Ditto	White glazed	430/0	Per 1,000 F.O.B. London
Ditto	Stretchers	420/0	
Ditto	Ditto, headers	30/0	Per 1,000 less
Ditto	2nd quality	10/6	Per yard
Ditto	Oake	5/6	cube d/d
Ditto	Pan	5/6	
C Cartage	Of Bricks, blue	12/6	Per 1,000
Ditto	Of ditto, Flettons	9/0	from rail to job.
Ditto	Of ditto, glazed	15/0	
Cement	Keweenaw	105/0	Per ton delivered
Ditto	Portland	58/0	
Ditto	White, ditto	312/0	
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D Drains, stoneware	Pipes and Fittings	-20%	F.O.B. London
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Ditto	Ditto	4/6 6/6	
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Driers	For paint	38/0	Per cwt.
E Enamel	White, best	25/0	Ditto, per gallon
F Felt	Roofing	9/10	Delivered, per square
Fireclay	Stourbridge	2/3	Ditto, per cwt
Flooring	Deal, P.E.	26/0 33/0	Per square delivered
Ditto	Ditto, G. & T.	27/0 34/0	
G Gas	Tubes, Standard list	-60%	Delivered
Ditto	Fittings, ditto	-50%	Ditto
Ditto	Tubes, galvanised	-45%	
Glass cut to sizes	Plate not exceeding 1 foot sup	1/7	
Ditto	Ditto 3 ditto	2/7	
Ditto	Ditto 5 ditto	3/2	
Ditto	Ditto 7 ditto	3/6	
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Ditto	Fittings, ditto	-45%	Ditto
Ditto	Tubes, galvanised	-38½%	Ditto
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Ditto	Ditto, ditto, 7" x 2½"	2/10	Per foot cube delivered
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Ditto	Soll	51/-	Ditto
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Ditto	Blue lias	58/3	Ditto
M Mahogany	Honduras	17/0	Ft. cube
Ditto	Cuba	26/0	Ditto
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Ditto	Out clasp	19/6	Per cwt.
Ditto	Lath	31/0	delivered
Ditto	Wire, oval	26/0	
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Ditto	Ditto, raw	4/-	ditto
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Ditto	Slabs, ceiling	2/3	Per yard
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R Rain water	Gutters, O.G.	2/3 2/9	Per yard d/d
Ditto	Pipes, round	2/4 3/3	Per cwt.
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S Sand	Ordinary	13/0	Per yard cube d/d
Ditto	Washed	14/0	
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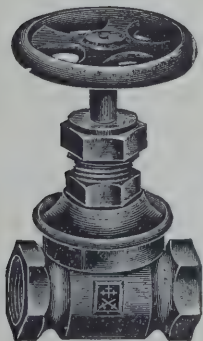
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INVENTIONS Advice Handbook and Cons. free.—**B. T. KING, C.I.M.E.**, Regd. Patent Agent G.B., U.S., and Can., 146A Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, and 6 Quality Court (next Pat. Off.) London, W.C.

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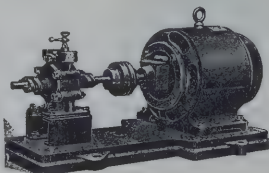
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NOTICE.

To Advertisers and Advertising Agents

In consequence of the necessity of closing pages for press on Wednesday, all fresh copy where proofs are required must reach this office by the Friday preceding publication, where no proof is required by Tuesday 5 o'clock.

TENDERS.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WOOLWICH
HOUSES OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

ERECTION OF FURTHER HOUSES AT ELTHAM.

THE Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich are prepared to receive TENDERS for the ERECTION of, alternatively, 100 or 200 HOUSES on their Housing Estate at Eltham.

Contractors desirous of tendering should make application on and after December 28, 1925, for the Plans and Specifications (no bills of quantities) to the Council's Architect, Mr. JOHN SUTCLIFFE, A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Woolwich, from whom any further details can be obtained.

A deposit of 3 Guineas must be made with the application, which will be returned upon receipt of a bona-fide Tender, together with the Plans and Specification.

Tenders, properly filled in on the forms supplied, must be delivered to me at the Town Hall, Woolwich, not later than 12 Noon on THURSDAY, January 14, 1926, in sealed envelope, endorsed "Housing Tender."

Any person or firm whose Tender is accepted will be required to enter into a formal contract, draft of which can be seen at my office.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order,
ARTHUR B. BRYCESON,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Woolwich, S.E.18.
December 14, 1925.

WORKING CLASS DWELLINGS.

THE Samford Rural District Council are prepared to consider designs for the erection of Houses suitable for the Working Classes in the Samford Rural District. Any type of house or material will receive consideration. Particulars and plans, with specification and estimate of the cost, to be submitted to the Clerk to the Council not later than December 31, 1925.

A. J. HAWARD,
Clerk to the Council.

5 Queen Street,
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TO ARCHITECTS
AND SURVEYORS.

The Proprietors of "The Architect" have placed this space at the disposal of the British Legion, Officers' Association, Employment Bureau, 3/4, Clements Inn, Strand, London, W.C.2 (Telephone: Holborn 5769), to whom all replies should be addressed, quoting number of advertisement, date of insertion and the name of this paper.

Demobilised Officers and Men
Wanting Situations.

Timber Checker, age 32, Lieut., M.C., M.M., experienced, seeks suitable employment Dis. 42.

Architect's Assistant, unable owing to War Service to do full time work for long, desires part time or intermittent work in or near London. Dis. 39.

Survey Work. An ex-Shipmaster, R.N.R., B. of T. Certificate, disengaged, desires position of trust demanding initiative; extensive experience in Survey Work and Superintending. Excellent credentials, professionally and socially. Dis. 51.

Auctioneering and Estate Agency. Disabled Officer, thoroughly acquainted with all branches and used to acting on his own responsibility, requires partnership in London or Country business. Opening new branches a speciality. (Premium by instalments.) Dis. 52.

Commercial Engineer, wide experience, specifications tendering and completing contracts, U.K. and Abroad. Accustomed to organising and full control office and outside staffs. Practical knowledge of shipping, drafts, insurance, buying, agencies, etc. Public and Technical Schools, apprenticeship. French and Spanish. Requires position where above qualifications may be utilised. 1353.

Civil Engineer. Ex-officer (R.E.), age 43, single, requires employment in any capacity affording a quiet country life. Some occupation with comfortable home and congenial society more important than amount of salary. Excellent testimonials and references. Dis. 20.

Mechanical and Constructional Engineer, 20 years' experience, would accept post offering scope for development of sound engineering proposition where initiative and common sense is required. Salary small to start contingent upon results for increase. Dis. 32.

Engineer, R.N.R., requires berth to take charge of Contractors running machinery, including laying all kinds of pipe lines, steam and electrical driven pumps, oil fuel burning and heating, home or abroad. Hold first-class Board of Trade Certificate 3891.

Ex-Officer, with general Commercial and Engineering training, desires secretarial work, book-keeping and staff control. Energetic, thoroughly trustworthy and reliable; open to accept any position at a moderate salary at home or abroad. Dis. 48.

Sound Factory Experience. Ex-Officer, married, Public School education and University training, engineer, sound factory experience in developing production, statistics, efficiency, management, piece rate setting, costing and general organisation; excellent testimonials testifying to tactfulness, ability, etc., seeks position with large manufacturers. Dis. 17.

Ex-Officer, age 32, married, well educated, experienced exhibition and utility poultry, rabbits, pigeons and dogs, good rough carpenter and gardener. Accept modest salary with cottage. Dis. 44.

Ex-Officer, age 46, married, no children, seeks employment on Estate, Farm or Nursery. Many years had responsible positions. Well up in all branches of Horticulture. Wife experienced Tea Garden management and capable of taking entire charge of Country House. Dis. 47.

Cambridge B.A., having practical and technical knowledge, requires post as Engineer or Engineer's Assistant in a Foundry or Engineering Works in England or Wales. 875.

First-class Speciality Salesman, disengaged, capable interviewer, open for appointment in London on salary and commission basis. A real energetic worker. 3740.

Antique Business. Ex-Service, age 37, recently returned from Colonies, seeks job in high-class antique business. Good connection, initiative and personality. Four years' experience with well-known Hitchin firm. 3588.

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APPOINTMENTS.

CITY OF LINCOLN.
 CIVIL ENGINEERING ASSISTANT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the APPOINTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING ASSISTANT to the City Surveyor. Candidates must have passed the Examination of the Institution of Civil Engineers or the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers, and have been trained in a municipal office, with experience in the preparation of plans, quantities and estimates for road and bridge construction, and the general work of a municipal surveyor's department.

The commencing salary will be £300 per annum, rising by two annual increments to £350, subject to satisfactory service, the salary being subject to deductions in accordance with the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922. The appointment will be terminable by one month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, which should not exceed 40 years, qualifications, experience, sealed and endorsed "Engineering Assistant," and accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials, must be delivered to the undersigned on or before December 30, 1925.

Canvassing will be deemed a disqualification.
 S. C. BAGGOTT,
 City Engineer and Surveyor.
 Corporation Offices, Lincoln,
 December 2, 1925.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER.
 CLERK OF WORKS.

THE WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL invite applications from qualified persons for the position of Clerk of Works, Works Department, at a salary of £200 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 to £250 per annum, plus bonus on the Civil Service Scale during the pleasure of the Council. (Total commencing salary, with present bonus, £306 2s.)

The appointment in the first instance will be on probation for a period of six months.

Applicants must be under 40 years of age at the date of their applications, and must have a thorough knowledge of building constructions and materials, including electrical work and heating; sewers; etc.

The person appointed will be required to pass a medical examination as to his physical fitness, and to subscribe to the City Council's Superannuation Fund.

Forms, on which applications are to be made, may be obtained from the undersigned, and such forms should be filled up and returned to the Westminster City Hall not later than 10 a.m. on Saturday, the 2nd January, 1926.

Personal canvassing of any member of the City Council is prohibited, and will be held to be a disqualification.
 JOHN HUNT,
 Town Clerk.

Westminster City Hall,
 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2.
 9th December, 1925.

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND.
 ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

THE CORPORATION invite applications from fully-qualified Architects for the post of a whole-time ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the department of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor. The appointment will be subject to the following principal conditions:—

- (1) The appointment to be in the first instance for a period of three years subject to an agreement approved by the Council.
- (2) The salary to be for the first year £450, for the second year £475, and for the third year £500.
- (3) The duties of the office to fall under the following main headings:—
 - (a) To prepare plans, drawings and specifications for all buildings and architectural work required by the Corporation and to superintend the carrying out of such buildings and works.
 - (b) To attend the Committees of the Council when and as required.
 - (c) To assist the Borough Engineer in all work connected with Town Planning.
 - (d) To act as adviser to the Corporation in the lay-out and development of the King's Farm and other Housing Estates and generally in the carrying out of any housing scheme or the improvement of slum areas.
 - (e) To assist generally when required in the preparation of plans, etc.

Special consideration will be given to applicants having experience in the building of Elementary Schools and of Houses for the Working Classes.

Applications, stating fully qualifications and experience and accompanied by three recent testimonials, should reach the undersigned not later than January 9, 1926.

H. H. BROWN,
 Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Graysend.
 December 14, 1925.

APPOINTMENTS.

BOROUGH OF PONTEFRAC.
 APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY
 ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

THE Corporation invite applications for the above appointment in the Borough Engineer's Department. Applications, stating age, qualifications, experience and salary required, together with copies of three testimonials, to be delivered to Mr. W. H. Newton, A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, Pontefract, not later than first post Monday, December 28, 1925.

Canvassing either directly or indirectly will disqualify.
 F. M. FARMER,
 Town Clerk.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

ARCHITECTURAL DECORATORS.—Well-known firm requires Manager thoroughly experienced in F.P. Compo, Carton Pierre, etc. Write fully, stating age, experience and remuneration. Applications treated in strictest confidence.—Box 194, Office of "The Architect."

EXPERIENCED TRAVELLER for London and district wanted for the New Year. Wall and Floor Tiling. Good connection with architects essential.—Apply Box No. 111, Office of THE ARCHITECT.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

BUILDER (retired), over 25 years' experience in new and restoration work, sound knowledge of all trades, requires position as Clerk of Works or Builder's Outside Manager.—Box No. 165, Office of THE ARCHITECT.

A. M.I.C.E. Engineer, 12 years with Consulting Engineer employed on Drainage, Heating, Electrical Work, Steam, and Power Plant, desires position with firm of Architects to get out schemes, drawings and specifications for engineering work. Age 41. Moderate salary.—Box 134, Office of "The Architect."

RETIRED Police Constable with excellent reference, including local county magistrate (retired through illness, now fully recovered), desires situation as timekeeper, caretaker, or any work at moderate remuneration (has small pension). Good appearance, steady, sober, and not afraid of work.—Box 88, Office of "The Architect."

QUANTITIES Prepared and Priced. Estimates for repairs, decorations and sanitary work, and additions; work measured and valued; 25 years' experience. Any distance. Moderate terms.—"SURVEYOR," 68 Winchendon Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

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Unpaid subscriptions for the current year will be gratefully received.

W. HILTON NASH, Hon. Treasurer.
 Sir CHARLES A. NICHOLSON, Bart.,
 Hon. Secretary.

9 Conduit Street, W.

COMPETITIONS.

AUSTRALIAN
 NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL
 AT
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COMPETITIVE TENDERS are invited for the Australian National War Memorial to be erected at Villers Bretonneux, France.

This competition is limited to:
 (a) Australian Architects or Designers resident in any country, who enlisted for service in the Great War with the sea or land Forces of the British Empire.

(b) Australian Architects or Designers resident in any country, whose sons or daughters enlisted for service in the Great War with the Forces above-mentioned.

Printed conditions regulating the submission of designs may be obtained upon application at the following offices:—

1. Military Headquarters in the capital city of each State of the Commonwealth.
2. High Commissioner's Office, Australia House, Strand, London.

Designs must be delivered, as prescribed, not later than April 30, 1926, addressed to:—

THE SECRETARY,
 Department of Defence,
 Victoria Barracks,
 Melbourne.

or THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR AUSTRALIA,
 Australia House,
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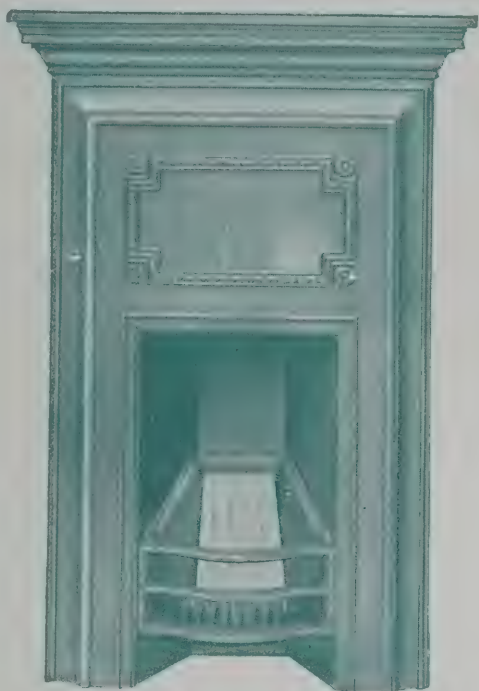
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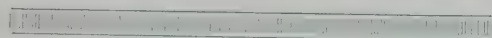
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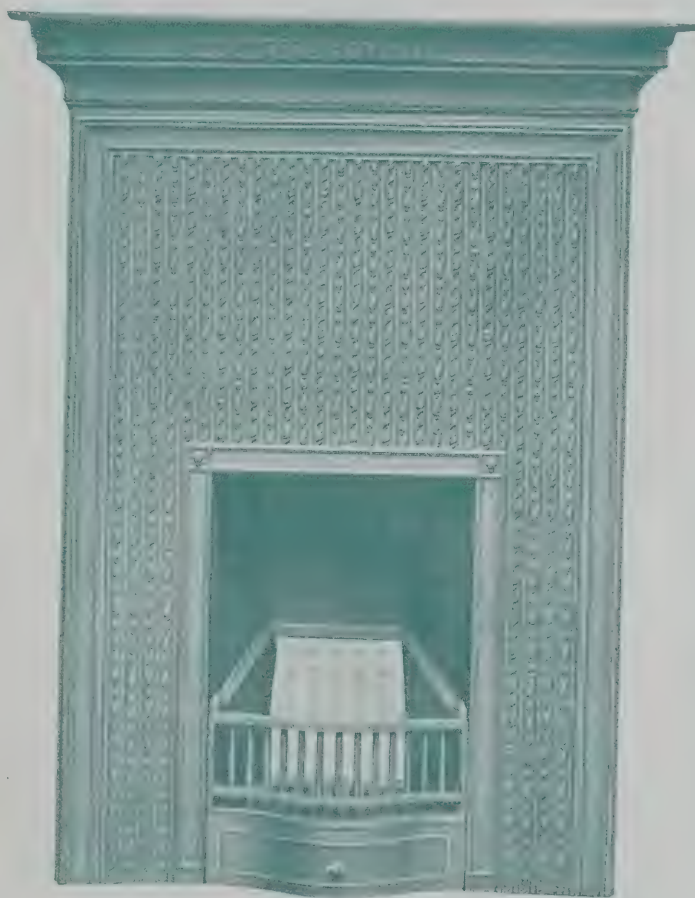


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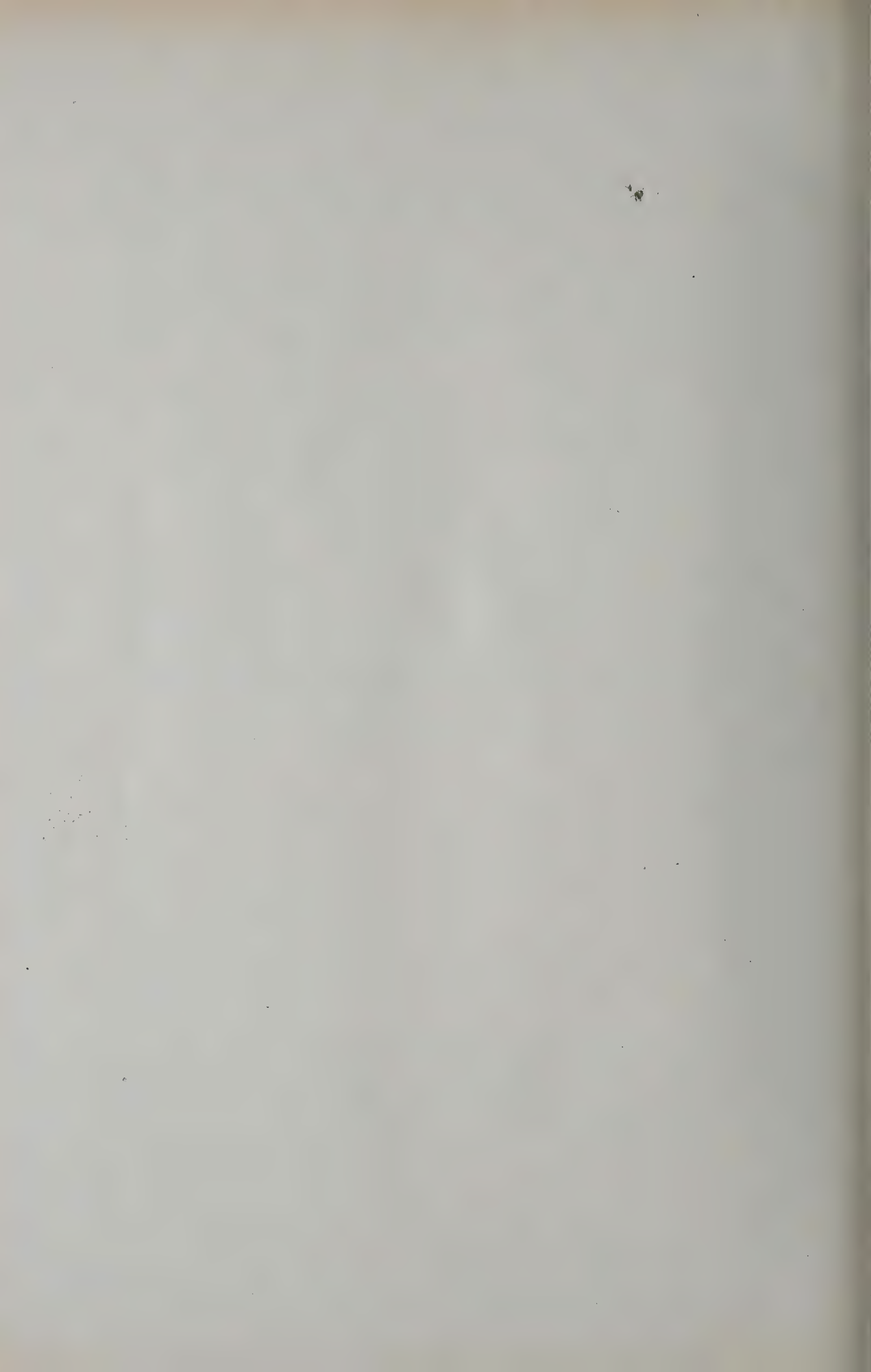
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